The Bombay Gazette.

No. 7,411.—New Series. BOMBAY :—TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1869. Annual Subscription in Advance... ..Rupees Fifty-two.

THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

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For year in advance delivered in Town	Rs. 52 0
including postage	„ 72 0
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In the Native Language, double the above.

Domestic Occurrences. Each—Rupee 1.

All Cheques, Money Orders, and other Remittances should be made payable to the "Proprietor of the *Bombay Gazette*."

SHIPPING.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE MALABAR COAST, CEYLON, MADRAS, & CALCUTTA.

THE British India Steam Navigation Company (Limited), under contract with Government, despatch Steamers as above, with Mails, Passengers, and Cargo, every fourteen days.

The Steam-ship ETHIOPIA, 1,132 tons, 200 H. P., Commander D. McCallum, will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 21st December at noon.

Leave Bombay	Dec. 21	Leave Galle	Dec. 29
„ Ratnagherry	22	„ Negapatam	31
„ Vingorla	22	„	Jan.
„ Carwar	24	„ Pondicherry	1
„ Mangalore	25	„ Madras	3
„ Cannanore	25	„ Coconada	5
„ Calicut	25	„ Vizagapatam	6
„ Mangalore	26	„ Bimlipatam	7
„ Cochin	26	„ Gopalpore	7
„ Tellicherry	27	„ Point Pedro	8
„ Colombo	28	Arrive Calcutta	9

This route is the most expeditious and economical for Passengers for the Neilgherrie district, Bangalore, and Madras, who can land at Calicut for Beypore, and proceed from thence by rail.

Passengers for Calcutta can take the same route, picking up the steamer at Madras.

No cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE PERSIAN GULF VIA KURRACHEE.

(Interchanging Cargo and Passengers at Bussorah, to and from Bagdad, with the Euphrates and Tigris Steam Navigation Company.)

THE British India Steam Navigation Company (Limited) under Mail Contract with Government, will despatch a Steamer every 14 days to the Persian Gulf, touching at Kurrachee, Guadur, Muscat, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah, and Bussorah.

N.B.—No cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH KURRACHEE.

THE British India Steam Navigation Company (Limited), under Mail Contract with Government, and in connection with the Weekly Service from England, despatch a Steamer to Kurrachee every Monday at noon.

The steam-ship COMORIN, 453 tons, 80 H. P., Commander J. Bowyer, will be despatched on MONDAY, the 20th December, at noon.

N.B.—No cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE MALABAR COAST.

Steamers LORD CLYDE, GENERAL HAVELOCK, GENERAL OUTRAM, and TILLY.

ONE of the above Steamers will be despatched every week to and from the Malabar Coast, calling at the intermediate Ports on the following days :—

Down Steamers.		Up Steamers.	
Leave Bombay	Saturday.	Leave Cochin	Friday.
„ Ratnagherry	Sunday.	„ Beypore	Saturday.
„ Vingorla	„	„ Calicut	„
„ Cannanore	„	„ Tellicherry	„
„ Mangalore	Monday.	„ Cannanore	„
„ Carwar	„	„ Mangalore	Sunday.
„ Compta	„	„ Compta	Monday.
„ Mangalore	Tuesday.	„ Carwar	„
„ Cannanore	Wednesday.	„ Goa	Tuesday.
„ Tellicherry	„	„ Vingorla	„
„ Calicut	„	„ Malwan	„
„ Beypore	„	„ Ratnagherry	Wednesday.
Arrive Cochin	Thursday.	Arrive Bombay	Thursday.

The Steamer GENERAL HAVELOCK, Captain Darwitz, will be despatched according to the above table on SATURDAY, the 18th instant, at 4 P.M.

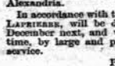
For freight and passage apply to

NOWROJEE RUSTAJEE, Manager.

No. 6, Borah Bazaar Street, 13th December, 1869.

NEW OVERLAND ROUTE.

(via SUEZ CANAL.)



LA COMPAGNIE MARO FRAISSINET PERE et FILS of Marseilles beg to announce that they are about to establish a DIRECT STEAM SERVICE between BOMBAY and MARSEILLES, via the SUEZ CANAL, thus dispensing with the necessity of transhipment of Goods and Passengers at Suez and Alexandria.

In accordance with the above the steam ship ASIE, Captain Lapierre, will be despatched from Bombay about the 24th December next, and will be followed, at intervals of five weeks time, by large and powerful steamers especially built for this service.

PASSENGER RATES.

(Inclusive of Wines, and all transit fees through the Canal.)

	1st Class.	2nd Class
To Aden	£ 25	£ 15
„ Suez	£ 40	£ 22-10
„ Port Said	£ 42	£ 24
„ Marseilles	£ 55	£ 36

For further particulars, rates of Freight, &c., apply to

KUNKLER, PREISWERCK, & Co., Agents.

Elphinstone Circle, 9th November, 1869.

FOR LONDON.

(To sail early in January 1870, calling at Cannanore if sufficient inducement offer.)

MESSRS. GREEN'S favorite Passenger Ship the WINDSOR CASTLE, Tons 1250, Douglas, Commander. This fine Vessel has excellent accommodation for Passengers, and Carries an experienced Surgeon. For particulars apply to

RITCHIE, STEUART, & Co.

Bombay, 29th November 1869.

NOTICE—Consignees of the Cargo per ship HIPPORCHAS, from Rangoon, are requested to send boats for their respective Goods, otherwise the Goods will be landed by Captain McIntyre as they come to hand at the expense and risk of the concerned.

Captain McIntyre will not be responsible for the risk of fire on shore when landed.

MERWANJEE NUSSERWANJEE.

11th December 1869.

CONSIGNEES of CARGO per Ship INDIAN MERCHANT, arrived from Calcutta, are requested to send BILLS of LADING for COUNTERSIGNATURE and pay Freight to the undersigned. Also to send Boats to take delivery of Cargo as it comes to hand, otherwise it will be landed by the Captain at the expense and risk of the Consignees.

Captain Mills will not be responsible for the condition of any package after it leaves the ship's deck.

B. F. FIELD, Jr.,

Agent for Ship Indian Merchant.

8th December 1869.

NOTICE.—Consignees of GOODS per "WINDSOR CASTLE," Douglas Commander, from London, are requested to send off Boats for their Cargo without delay, otherwise the goods will be landed by the Captain, as they come to hand, at the expense and risk of the concerned.

Captain Douglas will not be responsible for the condition of any package after it leaves the ship's deck.

RITCHIE, STEUART & Co.,

Agents for Captain Douglas.

Bombay, 9th December, 1869.

NOTICE.—Consignees of CARGO per Ship BURMAH, from Liverpool, are requested to despatch BOATS immediately to receive their GOODS as they come to hand, otherwise it will be landed at the expense and risk of the concerned.

Captain Pearse will not be responsible for the condition of any package after it has once left the ship.

CURSETJEE & EWUJEE DURASH,

Agents for the Ship Burmah.

Bombay, 8th December 1869.

NOTICE.—Consignees of Cargo per ship SALISBURY, from London, are requested to send off Boats alongside at once to take delivery of their Goods, otherwise the same will be landed by Captain True, without further intimation, at the risk and expense of the concerned.

Captain True will not be responsible for the condition of any package after it leaves the ship's deck.

THE LONDON, ASIATIC, and AMERICAN Co. (Limited),

Agents for Captain True, ship Salisbury.

Bombay, 23rd November 1869.

Now Ready, Extra Feap, 8vo. Price 6s. 6d.

FIRST BOOK OF INDIAN BOTANY,

BY

DANIEL OLIVER, F.R.S., F.L.S.,

Keeper of the Herbarium and Library of the Royal Gardens Kew, and Professor of Botany in University College, London.

With numerous Illustrations.

London: MACMILLAN & Co.

1869.

BYCULLA IRON WORKS.

RICHARDSON AND ROBSON,

SUCCESSORS TO

Messrs. DIXON AND Co.,

IRON AND BRASS FOUNDERS,

SMITHS, ENGINEERS,

AND

COMMISSION AGENTS.

MANUFACTURERS OF

COTTON PRESSES, GIRDERS, BOILERS,

PUMPS, TANKS,

IRON GATES AND RAILINGS, &c., &c.

SHIPPING.

OVERLAND FREIGHT ROUTE.

STEAM TO LIVERPOOL, LONDON, TRIESTE, MARSEILLES, BRINDISI, VENICE, NAPLES, LEGHORN, GENOA, BARCELONA, HAVRE, ADEN, AND SUEZ.

THE Bombay and Bengal Steam Ship Company, under arrangements with other first class lines of Steamers from Alexandria, undertake to give through Bills of Lading for Goods via Egypt to the above and most other Continental Ports.

A limited number of passengers can be accommodated.

Rates of Fare.

To Suez—1st class £40, 2nd class £25. } Exclusive
To Trieste—1st class £53, 2nd class £34. } of Wines.

Passengers by or for our Steamers will be furnished with First-class Tickets between Alexandria and Marseilles by Messrs. Fraissinet & Co.'s line for £10; making the passage-money between Bombay and Marseilles £50, exclusive of transit in Egypt.

We have arranged our departures from Bombay so as to arrive immediately before the departure of Messrs. Fraissinet's Steamer from Alexandria and avoid delay to passengers. The Marseilles Boats leave Alexandria every Thursday morning.

Steamers will leave Bombay every three weeks.

For Freight or Passage apply to Messrs. Stephen, Kennard & Co., London; Messrs. Tod, Kennard & Co., Liverpool; Messrs. Tod, Rathborne & Co., Alexandria; Austrian Lloyd's Steam Navigation Company, Trieste and Venice; Messrs. Fraissinet Pere et Fils, Marseilles; and Messrs. R. Rubattino and Co., Genoa; or to the undersigned in Bombay.

The Steam-ship MAGDALA, 2,200 Tons, Captain Thomson, will be despatched on 22nd December.

STEARNS, HOBART, & Co.

OVERLAND PASSENGERS.

Gentlemen proceeding Home will find all that is requisite in the following detailed list; the Goods being made specially for the passage and Home wear :—

REQUIREMENTS.

1	Dozen Silk and Wool Shirts.	1	Rug with Straps,
2	„ Under Vests.	1	Maud.
1	„ Linen Collars.	1	Inverness Cape.
1	„ Fine Cotton Socks.	1	Hand Portmanteau.
1	„ Fine Merino Socks.	2	Overland Trunks.
1	„ Fine Merino Drawers.	1	Clothes Bag.
1	„ Colored Handkerchiefs.	1	Travelling Hat,
1	„ White Cambric.	1	Courier Bag.
1	Overland Suit.	1	Easy Chair.
2	Sleeping Suits.	1	Umbrella.
2	Pairs of Kid Gloves.	1	Pair of Brushes.
2	Scarf and Ties.	1	Ladies' Overland Trunks.

Return Fare.—First "lass Passengers embarking from India by the P. and O. Co.'s Steamer within six months of their arrival from England, and *vice versa*, will be allowed a reduction of 20 per cent. on the Return Passage Money.

Bombay. BADHAM & Co., Apollo House.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

ST. MARY'S INSTITUTION. NESBIT LANE, BYCULLA.

On THURSDAY next, the 16th inst., at 8 o'clock P.M.

A GRAND CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT

will be given by the Boys of St. Mary's to their Benefactors, Friends and Parents.

Part I.

The Duke of Wellington, a Prisoner of War.—A Burlesque in Two Acts.

Part II.—Concert.

1. The Lost Child—Solo and Chorus. Harmonium accompaniment.
2. The Night Bell Gallop.—Joli Chorus with Orchestra accompaniment.
3. Just before the Battle.—Joli Chorus, Orchestra accompaniment.

By the Band and Philharmonic Society of the Institution.

PRICE OF ADMISSION.

First Class	Rs. 4
Second Class	„ 2

Parents of Pupils FREE on presentation of Tickets.

Tickets may be had at the Institution.

NOTICE.—CONSIGNEES of S. & Co. M. C. about 6,000 Bags RICE, shipped by Merwanjee Cowasjee from Rangoon, per Ship Hipporchus, are informed that the above Cargo is ready for delivery, and if the boats are not at once sent alongside the Ship to take immediate delivery, the same will be landed at the risk and expense of the concerned.

Captain McIntyre will not be responsible for risk of fire, &c., &c., when landed on shore.

MERWANJEE NUSSERWANJEE,

Agent Ship Hipporchus.

BOMBAY ALEXANDRA INSURANCE COMPANY.—NOTICE is hereby given, that all persons having CLAIMS against the above-mentioned Company are required to forward the same to Hormusjee Pestonjee Framjee, Esq., or Varjeevanlass Madhowdass, Esq., two of the members of the Committee of Shareholders of the Company, on or before the 31st day of January 1870. Immediately after that date the remaining Assets of the Company will be distributed without reference to any claims subsequently preferred.

DALLAS & Co.,

Solicitors for the Committee of Shareholders of the Company.

Bombay, 8th December 1869.

EUROPEAN ASSURANCE SOCIETY

At an EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of the Shareholders of the European Assurance Society, held on the 10th November last, a Committee was appointed to investigate the position of the Society and its management, and at the adjourned Meeting on the 17th ultimo, the following Report was presented and adopted :—

Your committee willingly undertook the onerous duties confided to them by the resolution passed at the special General Meeting, held on the 10th instant, and have endeavoured to act in this most important matter with the utmost care and impartiality. It is due to the chairman of directors, Sir Frederick Smith, to say that he has treated your committee frankly, and has given them every facility, and as far as was in his power, has placed before them all the information they desired. The committee are unable to make such a full report as they anticipated and desired within the week allowed by the resolution of the last meeting, but they are unanimously of opinion, from the investigation which they have made, that Vice-Chancellor James was fully justified in the judgment he gave dismissing the petitions to wind up the company, and that it would have been most injurious, both to policyholders and shareholders, if an order to wind up had been made. There is no doubt that the company possesses an extensive and valuable connexion, in the life department, and that the guarantee business is both valuable and profitable, and there seems to the committee to be no reason why, with a considerable reduction of the working expenses, and with proper vigilance and attention to the company's affairs, the shareholders and policyholders should not yet reap those advantages and profits which are generally obtained by a well-conducted life assurance society. Your committee, however, cannot refrain from stating their opinion that there has been gross mismanagement and recklessness in the numerous purchases of, or amalgamations with, other companies, as also in the enormous and unjustifiable annual expenditure. These causes the committee consider are due, first, to the want of proper vigilance and supervision on the part of the directors and to the great power acquired by the general manager, and which power has frequently been most improperly exercised. The committee cannot concur in the correctness or at all understand how the actuary arrived at the valuations and report he made, on the faith of which a bonus was declared, and they consider that the auditors have by no means fulfilled their duties, as even a cursory investigation of the society's accounts and proceedings would have shown to them that they were not justified in constantly passing the annual accounts. The committee felt it to be their first duty to test, as far as possible, the correctness of the balance-sheet for the year 1868, which was printed in the report of the directors to the special meeting of the 10th instant. The general result is that, although the assets as there stated may be correct as regards the nominal amount, yet, as to the present actual value, a considerable reduction ought to be made. It is alleged, and perhaps fairly, that the items which to your committee seem doubtful, may on realisation turn out better than at present anticipated; and it is undoubtedly true that many of the assets are really good although they may not be immediately available or realisable in cash. The principal material item in the liabilities—viz., £312,486—is one purely within the province of an actuary; and the committee very much regret to find that, as the last full valuation was made up to the end of 1855, there are no materials in the office which would enable an actuary who is not already fully acquainted with the business of the office to give there reliable advice under two or three months. The committee, therefore, suggest that at the end of this year an eminent actuary should be called in to make a perfect investigation and valuation, instead of at the end of 1870, as provided by the deed of settlement. The committee have, to some extent, examined and tested the statements made by the company's actuary, and see no reason to doubt their general correctness; but they have no hesitation in saying that the directors were not justified in declaring the last bonus, or in paying any dividends to the shareholders. The committee unanimously concur in the following recommendations, and hope that both policyholders and shareholders will adopt them :—

1st. That the general manager, actuary, and auditors should at once resign their position.

2nd. That the directors, as a body, should place their resignations in the hands of the committee, leaving it to their discretion to select such as they may think right to act with the new directors to be appointed; and the committee have every reason to believe they shall be able at once to obtain the consent of some four or five gentlemen, of good position and business capabilities, to accept this onerous office.

3rd. That the future board should not be less than seven or more than ten, and that their remuneration should not exceed £1,000 a year for the next three years.

4th. That an entire change be made in the system of paying agents and the mode of transacting the agency business, whether at home or abroad.

5th. That although there has been lately some reduction made in the chief office staff, a further economy be secured by a reorganisation of the mode of conducting the company's affairs.

6th. That a call of 10s a share be at once made, not so much as a present necessity, but as a guarantee to the public that there is available funds to justify a continuation of the confidence which up to the present time has been placed in this company. This call might for the convenience of the shareholders be made payable by instalments, and the committee believe that such a call would be cheerfully and duly complied with.

7th. That the deed of settlement be altered in some material particulars so as to enable large policyholders who are not shareholders to act as directors, and to take a more active interest in the affairs of the company, and also to make the constitution of the company more suitable to the present requirements of the public.

8th. That in future the report, accounts, and a balance-sheet of the society should be sent to the shareholders fourteen days before the annual general meeting.

9th. That your committee would recommend the appointment of local boards in the principal towns to consist of shareholders and policyholders, which such powers as may be agreed upon with the general board.

If these suggestions be adopted the committee believe that the company will be placed on a sound and satisfactory basis, and that with ordinary care and active and honest management the European may yet take rank amongst the first and most highly-valued of Assurance Societies.

J. G. T. CHILD, Chairman,
JOHN DENDY,
JAMES YEAMAN,
A. R. BRISTOW,
ABRAHAM CROMPTON,
R. G. HOUTON,
EDMUND HEELEY.

Published for the information of Policyholders in India.

By Order,

C. A. WALLIS,

Assistant Secretary Indian Branches.

NOTICE is hereby given, that LOWJEE NURSEY VURDMAN, of Bombay, Hindu Inhabitant, hath CONTRACTED and AGREED with CASSEEBAEE MARATHAN, of Bombay, Hindu, to SELL to her all that piece or parcel of LAND or GROUND, situate on the west side of the Princess Road, in the Island of Mazagon, in the Island of Bombay, containing by sub-district of Mazagon, in the Island of Bombay, containing by sub-district of Mazagon, in the Island of Bombay, containing by sub-district

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHARE MARKET.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

MARKET quiet and dull. Nothing doing.

BOMBAY BILL AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

Number of Shares.	Nomi. value of sh.	Paid up.	Last divi-dend.	Names.	Cash Rates per Share.
	Rs.	Rs.	p. a.		
100,00	100	all	10 p.ct.	Agra Bank	120
22,000	1,000	all	5 p.ct.	Bank of Bengal	1,550
10,000	500	all	5 p.ct.	Ditto of Bombay New	620
10,000	500	100		Ditto 2nd Iss. Issue	190
5,250	1,000	all	12 p.ct.	Ditto of Madras	1,550
30,00	250	all	3 p.ct.	Chartered Mercantile Bk. of L. & C. China	320
40,00	200	all	5 do.	Chartered Bk. of I. & C.	190
37,000	250	125	4 do.	National Bank of India	136
60,00	250	all	12 do.	Oriental Bank	440

LAND COMPANIES.

4,000	2,000	all	Rs. 65	Colaba Land Co.	1,630
10,800	1,000	all	Rs. 2-12	p.c. on the Land	1005
2,9,800	1,000	650	,,11-14	Do. New	630
8,000	150	all	Nil	Frere Land & Pier Co. Ld	180
2,000	5,000	4,100	Nil	Mazagon Land	1,230
5,000	2,000	1,48	Nil	Port Canning	3.0

SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

400	2,000	1,700	50	Albert Mills Co.	800
500	2,500	all	30 p.a	Alliance Spinning	1,680
100	5,000	all	....	Bombay	2,950
300	1,000	all	10 p.c.	Bombay United	730
600	500	all	....	Broach Mills	205
200	2,000	all	....	Dhunumsey Spinning	1,975
7 50	2,000	all	150 p.a	Great Eastern	1,370
50	1,000	all	50	Manockji Petit's	705
2,950	2,500	all	....	Oriental	1,340
60	2,500	2,300	....	Royal	1,375

(* For the half year.)

RAILWAY COMPANIES.

...	£20	18.3.1	5 p. c.	G. I. P. Railway Con. solidated Stock 240
...	£20	09.1.5	do.	Do. New £20 shares 198
...	£ 5	03.10.3	do.	Do. 200
...	£100	1,000	do.	B. B. & C. I. Railway Co. 1,100
...	£18	196.8.1	do.	Do. New Shares 200

PRESS COMPANIES.

150	5,000	2,850	350 p.a	Akbar Cotton Press Co.	2,250
200	2,000	1,100	10 p.c.	Albert Co. Karrachee	625
250	2,000	850	60 do.	Alexandra Press Co.	675
...	12,000	11,000	200 do.	Apollo Press Co.	8,600
200	2,000	all	225 do.	Bombay Press Co.	2,200
200	50	all	98 p.c.	Do. New	535
500	1,898	all	80 do.	Colaba Press Co.	9,000
350	2,000	all	....	East India Press Co.	1,125
150	2,500	all	1000*	Fort Press Co.	9,200
200	2,000	1,900	....	Framjii Cowasji Press	1,000
200	5,000	all	246 p.c.	Hydraulic Press Co.	3,450
1000	5,000	2,000	100 p.c.	Kurrachee Press Co.	800
14,500	1,000	500	....	Mofus. Press & G. Co.	220
125	2,500	all	350*	Prince of Wales Press	3,000
22,5	2,000	750	200 p.c.	Victoria Press, Madras	1,060
150	2,000	all	....	Timevelly Press Co.	1,600

(* Per share for the half-year.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

37 000	2,500	1,500	135 p.c.	Bombay Burmah Trading Corporation	810
24,000	50	all	5pc.	Mechanics' B'ld'g's Co.	33
500	2,000	300	9	Kurrachee Landing and Shipping Company	160
2,000	500	all	Nil	Treacher & Co.	285

MILITARY.

ARRIVALS.—DECEMBER 13.

Pierce, Major, 24th Regiment N. I., on leave, from Poona.
Collins, Surgeon Major, Opium Department, on leave, from Patna.
Macpherson, Ensign, 84th Regiment, on duty, from England.
Gaynor, Captain, 33th Regiment, on leave from Peshawur.
Rowlett, Surgeon, Medical Department, on sick leave, from England.
Byron, Captain, 2-10th Regiment from Depôt to Regiment, from England.
Jackson, Sub-Conductor, P. W. Department, to appear before a medical board, from Nynee Tal.
Chambers, Lieutenant Colonel, Bengal Staff Corps, on duty, from England.
Hotsford, Major, Bengal Staff Corps, on duty, from England.

DEPARTURES.—DECEMBER 13.

Walker, Lieutenant, Royal Horse Artillery, on leave, to Kirkee.

ARMY GENERAL ORDERS.

By His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

Adjutant General's Office, Head Quarters, Poona, 11th Dec. 1869.

Captain Kennedy, Adjutant 3rd N I, performed the duties of Wing Officer in addition to his own from the 5th November to the 3rd December 1869.

The following orders are confirmed :—

Mount Aboo Station Order—Dated 30th September 1869, directing Captain Nason, Staff Officer, to perform the duties of Commandant of the Sanitarium in addition to his own, vice Major Gostling proceeding to Europe on furlough.

8th Regiment N I—Regimental Order, dated 6th December, directing Major Woodhouse, Wing Officer to officiate as 2nd in Command and Captain Fellows to officiate as Wing Officer, in succession to Lieutenant Colonel Becher, Officiating as Commandant.

9th Regiment N I—Regimental Order, dated 2nd December 1869, appointing Lieutenant Colonel Thompson, 2nd in Command, to officiate as Commandant; Major Hanson, Wing Officer, as 2nd in Command; and Captain and Adjutant Birch, as Wing Officer in addition to his own duties, in succession to Lieutenant Colonel Baugh proceeding on leave.

5th Regiment N I—Regimental Order, dated 6th December 1869, directing Lieutenant Colonel Roome, Officiating 2nd in Command, to Officiate as Commandant, and Captain Brown, Officiating Wing Officer, as 2nd in Command, in addition to his own duties; with effect from the 4th instant in succession to Colonel Taylor proceeding on leave.

Regimental Order—by the Officer Commanding Royal Artillery, Bombay, dated 1st December 1869 appointing Lieutenant R J Hesket, Royal Artillery, Adjutant to the two Batteries 6th Brigade Royal Artillery located at Bombay for their Annual Practice.

Assistant Surgeon H P Roberts, M B, is transferred from general duty Bombay, to general duty Mhow, and will travel by rail and dak at the public expense.

Leave of absence :—Major J H Pierce, 24th Regiment N I, from 11th December to date of departure for Europe, to Bombay, preparatory to proceeding on furlough.

Ensign G C K Baldwin, and Assistant Surgeon D J Canny, 1st Battalion 11th Foot, to proceed to England by the overland route for the purpose of appearing before a Medical Board.

GENERAL ORDERS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

(*Fort Saint George Gazette*, Dec 7.)

Mr. J. Nelson, Judge of the Court of Small Causes at Combaconum, is granted leave for two years, from February next, to proceed to Europe on furlough.

Mr. R. E. Master, Director of Revenue Settlement, for two years, to proceed to Europe on furlough Mr. Master is permitted to add his accumulated privilege leave of three months to the above furlough.

Mr. J Bronsnhan, Assistant Engineer of the second grade, sick leave in India from the 15th November to the 9th December 1869 and leave to Europe, on medical certificate, from the 10th January 1870, with preparatory leave from the 10th instant.

Mr. Herbert Frederick Clogstoun, to be Assistant to the Collector and Magistrate of Madura, but to continue to act as Head Assistant of that District, during the absence of Mr. McWatters on leave, or until further orders.

Mr. Lorne Augustus Campbell, to officiate as Assistant to the Collector and Magistrate of Tinnevelly until further orders—to join forthwith.

Mr. Henry Bidewell Grigg, to be Assistant to the Collector and Magistrate of Tinnevelly—to join forthwith.

Mr. Henry Martin Winterbotham, to be Assistant to the Collector and Magistrate of Combatore.

Mr. Lewis Moore, to be Assistant to the Collector and Magistrate of Trichinopoly.

Mr. H. D. Elphinstone Dalrymple, to be Sheriff of Madras for the ensuing year.

Surgeon Donald Coleman McAllum, M.D., to be Zillah Surgeon and Superintendent of Jail at Tellichery—to join on being relieved of medical charge of the 26th Regiment.

Mr. Frederick Augustus Nicholson, is admitted as a Member of the Madras Civil Service from the 4th instant, the date of his arrival.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

The undermentioned Officers are permitted to proceed to Europe :—

Lieutenant-Colonel W Fane, of the Madras Staff Corps, Commandant 19 h Regiment Bengal Cavalry, on furlough for two years, and to embark from Calcutta.

Major G. W. Playfair, of the Staff Corps, Wing Officer, 30th Regiment Native Infantry, and Officiating 2nd in Command and Wing Officer 31th Regiment Light Infantry, on furlough for two years, and to embark from Madras.

Major J. M. Grant, of the Staff Corps, Brigade Major, Thayetmyo, on furlough for eighteen months, and to embark from Madras

Captain T. Higginson, of the Staff Corps, Wing Officer 1st Punjab Infantry, on furlough for two years, and to embark from Bombay.

Subject to the confirmation of the Government of India the service s of Assistant Surgeon C. M. Cullinan, are placed at the disposal of the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, for Civil employment.

SHIPPING.

DAILY FREIGHT REPORT—13TH DECEMBER.

London	Cotton	£2 5s. 0d.	Nom.p.ton
	Cases	£2 0s. 0d. to £2 5s. 0d.	,,
	Seeds	£1 10s. 0d.	,,
	Iron Ships Cotton	£1 10s. 0d. to £1 12s. 6d.	,,
Liverpool	Wooden Ships	£1 5s. 0d.	,,
	Myrabolns & Coir bds	£0 10s. 0d. to £0 12s. 6d.	,,
	Seeds	£0 15s. 0d. to £1 0s. 0d.	,,
Havre	Cotton	£2 0s. 0d. Nominal.	
	Coffee	Nominal	
Overland	Steamer Cotton	£3 0s. 0d.	
China	Steamer Cotton	Rs. 3 to 4 per bale.	
	Opium	Rs. 25 to 30 per chest.	
	Sailing Ships	Nominal	
Calcutta	Sail	Rs. 3 0 0 to 4 0 0 per ton.	
Calcutta to Bombay		Rs. 13 to 14 and Calcutta Port Charges	
Mauritius		8 annas per bag nominal.	

ARRIVALS.

Dec.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
12	Taptee (s)	Drewitz	Cutch, Dec. 9.

DEPARTURES.

Dec.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
13	Ellen Bates	Reed	Liverpool.
	Montrose	Anderson	Muscat.
	M. S. Elphinstone (s)	Dupuy	Goa.
	Bushire (s)	Hutchinson	P. Gulf via Kurrachee
	Necta (s)	Hauscon	Aden and Jedda.

The following vessels obtained their port clearances yesterday :—

Ship Bussorah, Turnbull, bound to Rangoon.
Ship Arracan, Tucker, bound to Persian Gulf.

The following vessels began to load yesterday :—

Steamer Elphinstone, to Malabar Coast and Calcutta.
Steamer Taptee, to Kutch Mandvee.
Brig Puttay Salam Flore de Goa, to Mozambique.
Ship Anezadir, for Mozambique.

BENGAL.

The Telegraph of December 8th has the following :—

ARRIVALS—Steamer Asia, (E), John Paterson, Madras 4th December ; and Barque Mary and Emma, (B), G A Thompson, Bombay 20th October, Calicut 5th November, and Cochin 10th November.

Particulars of vessels previously announced.—Steamer Decoan, (B), J R Kellock, Suez 15th November ; touched at Aden 21st November, Galle 1st, and Madras 4th December.

DEPARTURES—Steamer Mongolia ; and Ship Evangeline.

Passengers, per Steamer Asia—Major R D Barrett, Captain S W Bent, Captain W S Hunt, Lieutenant H J G Robinson, Lieutenant Alexander Roche, Lieutenant W R Thurnhill, Lieutenant G E Longford, Ensign G B Behan Ensign H W Walker, Ensign W H Greed, Assistant Surgeon D McPherson, Assistant Surgeon M D M'Cully, also Mrs Hunt and 3 children, and Mrs Robinson, 23 Sergeants, 21 Corporals, 12 Musicians, 442 privates, 1 Apothecary, 12 Hospital Attendants, 32 women, 34 children, 10 Cook boys, 32 Private followers, 2 horses of H M 's 2-19th Regiment of foot.

Per Barque Mary and Emma—Mrs Thompson.

MADRAS.

ARRIVAL—December 8th, Mahratta s s, A Scott, Calcutta.

DEPARTURES—December 7th, Baroda s s, ——— Calcutta, and Euphrate s s, ——— Calcutta.

Passengers arrived per Baroda s s—Mr D Henne, Mr W E Gordon, Dr Dickenson, Miss Morris, and European maid servant, Mr W D Punnard.

THE INDIAN TRAVELLERS' GUIDE FOR DECEMBER.

PRICE—EIGHT ANNAS.

CONTAINING the latest alterations in the time of running of the Trains on the various Lines of Railway, the time tables of the Local Trains between Bombay and Bandora, on the B. B. and C. I. and G. I. P. Lines, Steamer time tables, in addition to a large amount of interesting and useful information to travellers.

The GUIDE, having a large circulation amongst travellers, by rail and otherwise, is a most effective medium for advertisements.

ADVERTISING AT RAILWAY STATIONS.

THE Proprietor of the "Bombay Gazette"

Press having leased (among other privileges) from the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company, and the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company, the exclusive right of advertising at all the Railway Stations belonging to these two Companies, is prepared to contract with parties desirous of posting Notices or Advertisements on the lines.

The announcements may be in English or in any of the Native languages.

The advantages which Railway Stations present as a means of bringing intimations of all kinds before the public have been demonstrated in England by the extensive use which is made by Advertisers, of every station, great and small, along every line in the United Kingdom.

Insurance Companies, Shipping Companies, Hotel-keepers, Merchants, Traders, and others who wish to force their business on the notice of the public, all alike value the priiege of Railway Station Advertising

There is no reason why the privilege should not be also specially valuable to Advertisers in India. Looking to the great and increasing number of Native Railway passengers on the two trunk lines of Western India, native merchants, traders, &c., seeing that they have the privilege of advertising in their own language, would find the publication of their announcements at Railway Stations a decided means of extending their business.

Placards, according to the taste of Advertisers, may be prnted at the "Bombay Gazette" Press.

Advertisers can select the Stations, on either line, at which they wish their Placards posted, and may advertise for any period that may be agreed on. The charges have been fixed on an extremely moderate scale to encourage Advertisers to make a liberal use of the new means now offered of making announcements known to the public.

Terms of Advertising may be learned on application to the Manager, "Bombay Gazette" Press.

"Bombay Gazette" Press, 1869.

BOMBAY PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY—A REHEARSAL will take place in the Town Hall on TUESDAY, at a quarter to 5 for 5 p.m. prompt.

11th December 1869. ALFRED WAKE, Honorary Secretary.

BOMBAY PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

SEASON 1869-70.

PATRON.

HIS EXCELLENCY SIR SEYMOUR FITZGERALD, K.C.S.I

VICE-PATRONS.

THE HON'BLE SIR RICHARD COUCH.
THE LORD BISHOP OF BOMBAY.
H. E. THE COMMANDER-IN CHIEF.

PRESIDENT.

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE GIBBS.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE LLOYD.
THE HON'BLE A. H. CAMPBELL.

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

C. E. Chapman, Esq., C.S. — M. Mull, Esq.
R. A. Dallas, Esq., LL.D. — W. Nicol, Esq.
George Fogoo, Esq. — W. Paris, Esq.
Rev. W. Maule, — F. F. Punnett, Esq.
A. Steinacker, Esq.

TREASURER.

H. E. ASTLEY, Esq.

HON. SECRETARY.

ALFRED WAKE, Esq.

MUSICAL DIRECTORS.

A. STEINACKER, Esq. (HONORARY).
HERR SCHMUCK.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

PERFORMING MEMBERS.

Rs. 20 per annum (Tickets transferable.)

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

20 per annum, 30 per annum, 35 per annum, 40 per annum, entitling the Holder to one seat, two seats, three seats, four seats. Tickets not transferable.

The FIRST CONCERT will take place in the TOWN HALL on WEDNESDAY EVENING, 15TH DECEMBER, at 9 P.M.

PROGRAMME.

FIRST PART.

1. "Hommage à Handel" (Duet for two Pianofortes) ..... Moscheles.
2. "Morning Prayer." Part Song ..... Mendelssohn.
3. "Primrose." Do. ..... Do.
4. "L'Echo des Concerts," (Violin) ..... Schmuck.
5. "Tho' clouds by Tempest may be Driven" (Soprano Solo, from "Der Freischutz"). ..... Weber.
6. "The Chapel." Glee ..... Kreutzer.
7. "The two Roses" do. ..... Werner.

SECOND PART.

8. "Septette, in E flat major, for Violin, Viola, Violoncello, Bass, Clarionet, Bassoon, Horn ..... Beethoven.
9. "Consolation." Part Song ..... Smart.
"Good Night, thou glorious Sun," Do. ..... Do.
10. Air de Grace. From "Robert le Diable" (Pianoforte Solo) ..... Prudent.
11. "O Lord God of Abraham." Recitative and Aria from the "Elijah." (Base Solo) ..... Mendelssohn.
12. "The Heavens are Telling. Chorus from the "Creation" ..... Haydn.

A limited number of Tickets of Admission, Rs. 10 each, is available, and may be obtained from the undersigned.

Members will be supplied with Tickets at an early date.

ALFRED WAKE, Honorary Secretary.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS ONE RUPEE, AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

BOMBAY.

BIRTH.

AZEVEDO—December 12th, at Back Bay, the wife of Francis Azevedo, Esq., of a daughter.

NOTICE.

All CHEQUES, MONEY ORDERS, and other Remittances sent to this office, should be made payable to the "Proprietor of the *Bombay Gazette*."

Bombay Gazette Office, Bombay.

The Bombay Gazette

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1869.

THE age of romance is not at an end; only "sensible" people ever believed that it was. The very British Empire in India, although we who live in the midst of its common places can hardly see it, is still a romance, written in broad Roman, or let us say British characters; and we will concede so far to our ultra-sensible contemporary in Churchgate-street, as to say that the steady march of Russia in Central Asia is itself one of the grand romantic matter of fact enterprises of the age. But Africa, it seems, the theatre on which many heroic men have played their parts, is about to give us a new "piece." The careeer of Livingstone stands out in almost solitary grandeur among African travellers, and it is not over yet. But he has toiled and suffered single-handed or with comparatively small helps and aids. Even now he may be alone amidst an alien, perhaps hostile, people, cleaving his way by sheer force of personal character. The new hero, not unknown in African exploration, is to do his work with larger means. Sir Samuel Baker proposes, with the aid of trained Egyptian troops, to become the Cortez of the Equatorial Basin of the *Nile*.

These gallant adventurers are never wanting. "Count" Raousset de Boulbon tried to carve a kingdom out of Sonora and Mexican California. William Walker, the real precursor of the Secession War, sought to found in Central America a Military Confederacy based on slavery. Lopez, the Dictator of Paraguay, laboured for years to store up the means of founding a huge empire on the La Plata and its tributary streams. Mr. Lay actually advanced so far in his bold design upon China as to get together a fleet under that dashing sea-captain, Sherard Osborn, and struck men's imaginations by the originality of the method he devised to become the real ruler of the Celestial Empire. The Frenchman fell before a squad of Mexicans; the American died from the bullets of British sailors; Lopez sees the end of his dream in the recesses of savage mountains; Mr. Lay had to subside into the position of a newspaper controversialist. What will be the fate of Sir Samuel Baker?

His design is not wanting in grand characteristics. The original project—to put down the internal slave trade—has bloomed into a mighty plan of conquest. He has gone, as he avows, to annex the Equatorial basin of the Nile to Egypt, to establish a powerful government, to force on the natives the cultivation of corn and cotton, and make roads by exacting tribute in forced labour. Mr. Watts, the Manchester agent, whose arrival here to reform Dr. Forbes and the Cotton Department, has been announced with a flourish of trumpets by the Cotton Frauds Act organ, would surely have been more in his place had he been appointed Cotton Aide-de-camp to Sir Samuel Baker. For the new hero sees in perspective, not only fine fields of cotton in the lands watered by the Nile streams, but an immense consumption of piece-goods; and he will perhaps "compel" the people to take the piece goods in exchange for the cotton bales. And he goes under great advantages. According to his own account he has not only seventeen hundred soldiers, six steamers, and thirty large sailing vessels, with a reserve nearly as strong at Khartoum, but he has received from the Khedive "absolute power," and a *carte blanche* for all expenses, without the prospect of a select Committee and two travelling M. P.'s looming in the distance. It is easy for the Khedive to give absolute power over lands and population not under his sway. That is a cheap exercise of abnegation; but it may not be so easy to find the money. However, in these days of superlative loan-mongering, that is, we suppose, a minor consideration. We are not disposed to be sentimental, but it is as well to call things by their right names. Sir Samuel designs to substitute the slavery of civilization for the slavery of barbarism. We do not suppose that the condition of the Equatorial basin of the Nile can be made much worse than it is; it may be made much better; and Sir Samuel may be the destined great reformer of that region. But plainly if he compels people to cultivate, or as he calls it "to work for themselves," he will be instituting a regular system for the production of slave-grown cotton. Moreover, as has been pointed out, he will have to work through Egyptian agents, whose "mild" rule over gangs of forced labourers is somewhat notorious. We shall watch, with curiosity and interest, the issue of an enterprise which combines, in so marked a degree, the spirit of old romance, and the motive power of the modern exchange, of the Knight-errant and the Bagman.

In a political point of view its success would materially change the already much altered relations between the Khedive and the Sultan. With the Suez Canal on one side and the Equatorial Basin of the Nile on the other, the Viceroy will be too big for a subject, perhaps too weak for an independent prince. He is already an apparent believer in his own right to stand alone, and there can be no doubt that his quarrels with the Divan are as grave as report makes them out to be. Trouble of a painful kind may be involved in the success of the Englishman's project for supplementing Egypt with a huge cantle of the interior of Africa, and, combined with the Suez Canal, though for different reasons, it may give rise to an Eastern "box of lucifer matches" in the shape of an Egyptian question. But it has not succeeded yet, and sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

THE Asiatic husband is proverbially cruel. From the remotest ancient time up to the present day, the Hindu has treated his wife as his property or as his other goods and chattels. The Parsee, than whom a more imitative race does not exist, followed the example of his Hindu neighbour, and began to consider, what he had not been accustomed to consider in Persia, his partner in life as something like his domestic slave if not his domestic animals. It is within the last fifteen or twenty years that Parsees began to treat their wives with more humanity and consideration: and this state of things is due to education, and consequent advancement in the scale of modern civilization. Yet, in a large population like that of Parsees in Bombay, instances of cruelty to wives are not wanting. Before the passing of the Parsee Matrimonial and Divorce Act, differences between a Parsee and his wife were settled by the now defunct Punchayet, whose decisions were obeyed or disobeyed as the whims and caprices of the parties affected thereby dictated. The tendency of such decisions was almost invariably to effect a reconciliation between the couple, regardless of future dissensions or danger to life or even bodily harm. The Punchayet, composed as it always had been, of the elderly, wealthy and influential portion of the Parsee community, invariably guided its resolutions with one object in view, namely, that it was sinful to separate a man and woman, who had been once united in "holy wedlock," wholly disregarding all causes of differences between them. The Punchayet were powerless as to enforcing their verdicts, and the consequence was that real culprits escaped punishment, except some temporary social excommunication.

The Parsee Matrimonial and Divorce Act, which has been in operation since September 1865, is calculated to abate the existing evil of cruelty practised by a husband over his lawful wife. The institution of this Court may still be considered as in its infancy, though we have had about two scores of cases of all descriptions arising from a married life. We cannot say the Parsees have as yet approached that standard of civilization which accords to women that respectful position in social life to which they are naturally entitled. We hope, however, the day is not distant when the theory of subjection of woman will be discarded by the Zoroastrians, and the Parsee lady elevated to that social position which is her due. We have every hope in the Matrimonial Court which will gradually work a revolution and teach Parsee husbands to be more humane and affectionate to their wives.

As far as we have been able to gather, there have been two cases of cruelty by husbands to their wives, tried before this Court. Though the instances of cruelty in both cases were similar, the "findings" of the Delegates were opposed to each other. In the case of Ardaseer *versus* Awabye, the plaintiff sought restitution of conjugal rights, which the defendant refused on the grounds of cruelty and adultery, —the last of which she failed to prove. There were several allegations of acts of cruelty, including beating, slapping, using most foul, obscene and insulting language and threats, confinement to a single room, refusal of access to her parents. Some of these allegations were proved, though as to others the Delegates were divided; and in the opinion of a small majority, the allegations of acts of cruelty proved to be established, did not form just grounds for the defendant's withdrawal from plaintiff. In the other case, Pavree *versus* Dinbae, the plaintiff also sought conjugal restitution, which the defendant refused by alleging several acts of cruelty. In this instance the alleged acts of cruelty consisted of beating and threats. The Delegates, all of whom understood English, and consequently formed a due appreciation of the evidence put before them, the addresses of counsel on both sides, and the learned Judge's summing up, came to a conclusion different from that arrived at in the first cited case; and the Court dismissed the plaint.

Now, how is this difference in the verdict of the Delegates to be accounted for? The answer lies in the fact that a few of the Delegates still entertain the notion that the woman should be kept in subjection, that it is unholy to break the marital tie, and that if she were given unbridled license in this respect, the Court would be swamped with matrimonial causes, and that judicial separation would be sought on trivial grounds; and in the fact that some of them being unacquainted with the English language, fail to appreciate the weight of evidence, the arguments and keen reasonings of counsel and the charge of the presiding Judge. We are afraid the word "cruelty" is chiefly misunderstood; and it is not to be wondered at when we know that high judicial officers have differed in defining its true scope and meaning. The most common use of the word is associated with the idea of beating, or inflicting bodily harm. But the legal signification of cruelty practised by a husband over his wife is quite different from mere beating. It has been defined to be "such conduct in one of the married parties as renders a continuance of their cohabitation either so dangerous to the other in fact or attended with such reasonable apprehension of danger in the mind of the husband, to the physical existence or comfort, as to demand a separation on the ground of the real physical safety of the other, or of mental and physical capacity of the other to discharge well the duties of husband or wife." The most recent definition of the word has been that *mental* injuries if they tend to endanger life, or prevent the proper discharge of conjugal duties will be treated as cruelty. It has been decided in several cases that taking into consideration the education, position, manners, of the parties to a matrimonial suit, a mere slap, or spitting on the face, an insulting taunt or foul language or threat, tending to mental suffering and consequent bodily ailment, is sufficient to constitute cruelty. It will be some time, it is to be apprehended, before our Parsee friends are able to recognise the importance of those things which form cruelty in high life.

SOME doubt has been expressed touching the sailing orders of the Great Eastern. In a few weeks she will arrive in Bombay, accompanied by the Chiltern. Here she will take in coal, and then her destination will be Aden. The shore end of the cable will be laid in Back Bay, and the Great Eastern will then proceed westwards paying out the line. The Chiltern will be her attendant, ready to aid in any emergency, and drop a buoy in case of temporary accident. Arrived at Aden the westerly shore end of the Bombay and Aden line will be made secure; and then another shore end, the easterly one of the Red Sea section, will be laid, and the Great Eastern paying out the rest of her cable will pass to the westward of Perim, enter the Red Sea, and proceed until her store is exhausted. At Aden the Hibernia will have joined the little fleet, and from her tanks and those of the Chiltern the line will be completed to Suez. In the meantime the Hawk will have reached Suez through the canal, from England, with the Suez shore end. This will be laid and buoyed and ready for splicing with the main line when brought along from Aden. After she has performed her task the Great Eastern will return to Aden, coal, and steam away for England. There she will be freighted with the submarine cable which will be laid to Singapore, and set out on her voyage for these waters; reaching Bombay, perhaps, this time next year. The agent of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company, Mr. Donald Cruickshank, is now in Bombay, charged with the management of their affairs, and they are not likely to show any want of vigour or enterprise.

WE observe it stated that Mr. T. T. Cooper, the traveller, was to have left Sudya for the Mishmi country on 25th November, and that if all went well with the expedition he would reach the Thibetan frontier about the middle of the current month.

A CALCUTTA contemporary mentions that at the Chapter of the Order of the Most Exalted Star of India, no one but the Duke will be decorated. This is to be done with the object of setting forth the Prince in as distinguished a light as possible. The Dholepore Chief has, in consequence, been already invested at his capital by the Political Agent.

IT is said that the Maharajah of Gwalior is so unwell that it is a matter of doubt whether he will be able to remain in Calcutta. He is suffering under a complication of liver and other serious disorders, and has been attended by the surgeon to His Excellency the Viceroy.

A TELEGRAM has been received from Calcutta by the Bombay manager of the Port Canning Company, stating that the directors do not intend to make another call at present, nor till after consultation with the Bombay shareholders. They also express a wish to be informed whether the Bombay shareholders are in favour of reconstruction and of the issue of Rs. 1,500-fully-paid-up scrip.

WE learn from a Calcutta contemporary that Dr. Russell was expected there, as special correspondent of "The Times," during the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh. Another special correspondent on the occasion will, it is said, be Mr. A. Cameron, the well-known originator of the proposal to send an expedition to Borneo in search of "tailed men."

THERE is, says the "Indian Daily News," a rumour strongly believed in official circles that one of the measures to be adopted by the Government of India with a view to reduce the present expenditure on public establishments will be the stoppage at once of all periodical increase of salary. Wish are also in Government offices and departments into which the system of classified appointments has been introduced.

"LAST evening," says the "Indian Daily News" of the 10th instant, "the Viceregal party, including Lord and Lady Napier and Sir Seymour Fitzgerald, attended the Opera. Amongst the expected arrivals may be mentioned Sir Seymour Blane and Colonel Reilly, who will probably reach Calcutta to-day. Sir Neville Chamberlain arrived yesterday morning. Colonel and Mrs. Fytche from Burmah, Mr. Davies of Lucknow, and Mr. Morris from the Central Provinces, are not expected till about the 17th instant."

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.

(BY SPECIAL TELEGRAM.)

CALCUTTA, 13TH DEC., 7-57 A.M.

THE Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Singapore on the 2nd instant, and is expected here on the 22nd.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH.

THE following dates of private telegrams were received at the Bombay Telegraph Office during the 24 hours ending at 8 o'clock yesterday evening :—

United Kingdom, via Turkey, 3rd December ; via Russia, 6th December.

Continent of Europe, via Turkey, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th December.

From Alexandria, 4th and 5th December.

The time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay from 8 P.M. of the 12th to 8 P.M. of the 13th December is as follows :—

To Bombay	Max.	Min.
From Kurrachee	1 56	0 1
,, Calcutta	5 9	0 5
,, Madras	8 35	0 54

Communication between Bombay and Kurrachee perfect.

Undelivered messages in the Bombay Signal Office—For Dollal Ela, from Calicut.
For Jacob Varsy, from Cochin.

NEW BANK OF BOMBAY, LIMITED.

Statement of the affairs of the Bank, on 11th December, 1869.

LIABILITIES.	Rs.
Proprietors' Capital paid up	50,00,000
Subscriptions on account of new Capital	10,00,000
General Treasury Balance	23,48,021
Deposits at Head Office	2,02,46,656
Deposits at Branches	16,75,128
Bank Post Bills outstanding	21,76,101
Reserve	2,92,936
Undrawn Cash Credits	6,70,246
	Rs. 3,84,00,088

ASSETS.	
Government Securities	26,72,391
Loans at Head Office and Branches on Govt. Securities, Bullion, Goods and Metals	6,59,501
Credit Accounts at do. on Govt. Securities	18,94,586
Bills Discounted and purchased at do.	57,68,642
Dead Stock	4,69,283
Loss written off	20,000
	4,49,283
Stamps	5,350
Balances with Agents & Correspondents	19,95,595
Overdrafts	8,93
Cash & Currency Notes at Head Office	1,72,69,950
Do. do. at Branches	62,55,782
Bullion at H. O. and Brannches	14,25,761
	Rs. 3,84,00,088

BANK OF BENGAL.

THE weekly statement of the affairs of the Bank of Bengal for the week ending the 7th Dec., compared with the return for the previous week, gives the following results :—

LIABILITIES.			
G. T. Bauce. at HA. Office'..	Rs.	20,62,552 14	8 decrease.
,, ,, Branches	,,	9,44,217 8	5 increase.
Other Deposits	,,	18,73,644 0	3 increase.
Bank Post Bills	,,	99,380 7	11 decrease.
Sundries	,,	1,24,223 7	1 increase.
ASSETS.			
Government Securities	Rs.	1,36,43. 0	0 decrease.
Loans on Govt. Securities	,,	42,62. 6	0 decrease.
Accts. of Credit on do.	,,	17,58,841 15	0 increase.
Mercantile Bills Discounted	,,	21,63,900 3	10 increase.
Balances with other Banks	,,	88,235 13	4 increase.
Cash &c. at Head Office	,,	15,78,184 11	3 decrease.
Do. do. Branches	,,	14,40,356 0	10 decrease.

POLITICAL LETTER.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, 19TH NOV.

GEORGE PEABODY was buried in Westminster Abbey on Friday last, and will be "resurrected," as his countrymen would say, in a few days, when his remains will be transferred to Portsmouth, shipped on board Her Majesty's iron-clad Monarch, with almost royal honours, and then borne across the Atlantic to Portland. Funeral sermons were preached for him on Sunday in several churches here, one being in the Abbey itself by the Bishop of London. Sensational "leaders" on him have of course abounded, and, one way or the other, he has been, next to the Suez Canal, the topic of the week. People at a distance may wonder at this homage done to a mere philanthropist. In what does Peabody differ so much from other benevolent millionaires that two hemispheres should utter lamentations at his death? should vie with each other in doing him honour, and should accompany the last rites of sepulture by such unwonted compliments as responsive elegies chanted on both sides the ocean, the boom of minute guns, and flags hoisted half-mast high? His donations have been enormous; to the poor of London they now represent half a million sterling, and to the United States perhaps double that sum; but these amounts are not so excessively disproportionate to his great wealth as to justify the singular eulogiums heaped upon him, and they appear less remarkable when we consider that he was a man of simple tastes, that he had no family or near relatives to inherit his property, and that he did not give the money till he had reached advanced years, when he could not in the course of nature expect to live long to enjoy anything. Nor need it be forgotten that, even after his large donations, he still retained means sufficient to gratify, had he been that way disposed, the wildest extravagancies of a rich man's caprice. There is, then, ample reason to laud George Peabody as a noble giver and a generous, large-hearted man; but certainly not enough to explain the gush of exuberant sentiment that seems to have carried all our journalists off their feet. The explanation

FRERE LA[illegible] AND PIER COMPANY.

On Saturday af[illegible]noon, an extraordinary general meeting of the shareh[illegible]rs of the Frere Land and Pier Company was held in the office of the secretary and treasurer—Mr. Ahmedbhoy Hubibhoy in the chair—to determine the amount of compensation to be paid to Mr. Muncherjee Nowrojee Banajee, secretary and treasurer of the company, in consideration of his valuable services, on his retirement from office of secretary and treasurer; to cancel clause of the article of association of the company; and appoint Messrs. Sir Charles Forbes and Co. secretaries and treasurers of the company.

The Secretary and Treasurer then read the report of the directors, which was as follows :—

To the shareholders of the Frere Land and Pier Company (Limited).

Gentlemen,—The advertisement convening this meeting must have prepared you for the business which will be asked to dispose of this day. As a preliminary to the same, your directors do not think it out of place to state that since August last, when the present company fairly started in its career, everything that appeared likely to render it a paying concern has been attempted. The directors were also just about commencing the required works of improvement to the company's property, when they heard of a movement amongst a portion of the shareholders for which the principal object was to transfer the office of the secretary and treasurer of the company from the present incumbent to the firm of Messrs Sir Charles Forbes & Co. Your directors therefore thought it prudent to defer action in matters involving large expenditure of money until the said movement should be so shaped as to prove satisfactory to all concerned. This being arranged, and immediately on the receipt of the requisition which will be presently read, your directors invited you to meet together and dispose of the demand made by the requisitionists. Before your proceeding with that question, the directors think it right to suggest that, should this meeting, or the major portion of its members, deem it desirable to agree with the requisitionists, the shareholders, previous to passing formal resolutions to give effect to the wishes of the requisitionists, ought to recognise formally the value of the assistance rendered during the anxious times when the so-called "Frere Company" had been passing through so many difficulties, by Mr. Muncherjee Nowrojee Banajee, our secretary and treasurer, and to make compensation to him for the loss of his situation. Your directors may state that a reward of at least Rs. 15,000 is well deserved by that gentleman; as for themselves the directors have simply to state that their best efforts will be earnestly exerted as hitherto for promoting the interests of the company. There are about Rs. 1,50,000 available for purposes of the company, and it is intended to invest forthwith a moiety of this sum on such works of improvement as are absolutely necessary, viz., the construction of the lock gate at the head of the canals, the repairs and completion of the canals and roads, improving the timber basin, &c. The plans and estimates for these are ready, tenders have been invited and received from parties willing to undertake such works on contract, and actual operations will be earnestly commenced as soon as the now pending question is determined. Referring you to statement A, relating to the affairs of the company, you are requested to proceed with the business you are invited to dispose of.

The above report was explained in the Vernacular to the non-English-speaking shareholders by Mr. Motiram Bhugubhoy.

The requisition, signed by more than twenty shareholders, holding in the aggregate more than one-fourth of the shares of the company, and requesting that motions should be put to the meeting for cancelling clause 100 of the articles of association, and for the appointment of Sir Charles Forbes & Co. as secretaries and treasurers of the company, was then read to the meeting.

Mr. M. DeQuadros then called attention to the valuable services rendered by Mr. Muncherjee Nowrojee Banajee to the company. From his own knowledge, he said, he could assure them that but for the financial scheme brought forward by Mr. Muncherjee, which had proved so successful, this company would have now been in the Insolvency Court. Such was the dread, before Mr. Muncherjee's scheme was brought forward, that shareholders would not even transfer shares to their own names; this, however, had all been altogether altered by Mr. Muncherjee's scheme, and his compromising and inducing creditors to give up certain claims against the company. (Hear, hear.) They had agreed to retain Mr. Muncherjee as long as he liked, and as certain shareholders had thought it well, for reasons best known to themselves, to propose a change, it would be ungrateful on their part if they did not express their appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Muncherjee, which could only be done by giving him something substantial. He, therefore, begged to propose—"That this meeting, appreciating the value of the assistance rendered by Mr. Muncherjee Nowrojee Banajee, secretary and treasurer to the Frere Land and Pier Company (Limited) during the anxious times when the so-called 'Frere Company' had been passing through so many difficulties, resolves that the sum of Rs. 18,000 be paid out of the company's funds to that gentleman on his resignation of the office of secretary and treasurer." Though, perhaps, this might appear a large sum, it was, he thought, really a small one; for Mr. Muncherjee had accepted Rs. 6,000 a year, simply because he knew the company was not able to pay more, and the shareholders intended to give him a more liberal salary.

Mr. Framjee Sorabjee Barocha said that when everybody had forsaken the company, Mr. Muncherjee had set it right, and therefore he had much pleasure in seconding the motion.

The motion was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Mr. Muncherjee Nowrojee Banajee then said—I am obliged to you for the consideration shown me as expressed in the resolution the shareholders have this day passed regarding me. My office, as well as those of the directors ever since I took charge of the Frere Company's concern, has been a bed of thorns. The difficulties and discouragements in extricating the concern from its most embarrassed situation have been of no ordinary character. Before the Frere Land and Pier Company became a fact established, few were found willing to believe in the possibility of its predecessors escaping from insolvency, or their properties from the auctioneer's hammer. Perseverance, tact, and hard efforts, accomplished at last what seemed at utterly impracticable. Your concern has emerged from what so long seemed a hopelessly lost condition into one of present safety and prospective prosperity. I was just looking forward to the day when I would have had the pleasure of producing before you an abstract of account showing a respectable profit instead of heavy losses, as had been the case till recently. But fortune seemed to have determined otherwise, as must be patent to every one witnessing this day's proceedings. As secretary and treasurer of the Frere Land Companies, my post has been all along full of the greatest anxiety. But I am advised that the less said on this point the better will it be for all concerned. It has been the earnest wish of many shareholders holding large number of shares, that I should fight and win for the company. But, gentlemen, however certain I am, that if I did so, I would succeed and cause disappointment to those desiring otherwise, I think it much better not to remain with the company where an unpleasantness has once arisen. Notwithstanding all that has happened, nobody can ever deprive me of the sweet solace of having done my duty to the best of my power under so many trying circumstances, and of the satisfaction that I shall ever feel for the success with which Providence has crowned my efforts. Thanking therefore you, gentlemen (particularly those friends who have been willing to stand fast by me in a just cause), for the consideration shown me this day, in conclusion, I beg to say that the new secretaries and treasurers (to be appointed this day), I have no doubt from their well known character, will do all in their power to further the success of the company. (Applause.)

On the motion of Mr. Muncherjee Cowasjee, seconded by Mr. Ramdas Purshotum, it was agreed by a large majority—"That clause 100 of the articles of association of the company be cancelled."

Mr. Motiram Bhugoobhoy proposed—"That the partners for the time being of the firm of Messrs Sir Charles Forbes & Co. be, and they hereby are, appointed secretaries and treasurers of the company, and as such secretaries and treasurers they shall have the general management of the business of the company, subject to the control of, and under the direction of, the board of directors of the company."

This motion was seconded by Mr. Valhubjee Toolseydas.

Mr. Framjee Sorabjee Barocha wished to know what advantage was expected from the transfer. The company had only lately been extricated from its difficulties by Mr. Muncherjee, and no opportunity had been afforded to him for developing its resources.

Mr. Byramjee Jeejeebhoy pointed out to Mr. Framjee, that Mr. Muncherjee himself thought the least said on this point the better for all concerned. The meeting seemed to have acquiesced in that, and it would be serving no friendly part to anybody to start a discussion on this point.

Mr. M. Roonan said that as one of the requisitionists he had purposely kept quiet, because the requisitionists did not wish to explain what motives had led them to get up this requisition; but—

The Chairman here interrupted Mr. Roonan by asking him if he was a qualified shareholder.

Mr. Roonan—I think I am a shareholder.

The Chairman—But are you a shareholder qualified to act at this meeting?

Mr. Roonan—Well, I am a shareholder.

The Chairman—I must tell you, you cannot speak at any meeting of the company till you are properly qualified.

Mr. Roonan said the requisitionists had purposely refrained from stating their reasons, because they intended to state hereafter the advantages of the change.

A decided disinclination to allow Mr. Roonan to speak was here expressed by the meeting, and that gentleman resumed his seat.

The motion was then put to the meeting and carried by a large majority.

On the motion of Mr. Kessowjee Naik, seconded by Mr. M. R. DeQuadros, it was agreed—"That the sum of Rs. 700 be paid monthly as remuneration of the secretaries and treasurers until the gross annual revenue of the company shall amount to a sum which will yield a commission at 5 per cent. larger than the last-named sum, when their remuneration shall be a commission of 5 per cent. on the gross revenue of the company."

Mr. Kessowjee Naik then proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and in doing so observed that whatever sum was paid to Mr. Muncherjee Nowrojee Banajee, it would not be an adequate remuneration for the services he had rendered to the company. Mr. Muncherjee deserved the thanks of the shareholders for his services, and he had no hesitation in thus declaring his opinion publicly.

The thanks were passed and the proceedings then terminated.

TROOPS FOR INDIA.

Her Majesty's Indian relief screw troopship Serapis, Captain John Soady, embarked the following troops at Portsmouth on Saturday Nov. 13th. 15th Hussars—Col. Wygram, Majors Burrell and Swindley, Surg.-Major Stewart; Capts. Pearson, Humphroys, Walker, Maxwell, Gregory, Luck, and Langtry; Lieuts. Brown, Blackett, Body, Bryan, White, Beek, and Davison; Cornets Cookson, Kay, Hamilton, Sullivan, Rennell, Smirke, and Holland; Adjt. Briscoe, Paymaster Lacelle, wife, and child, Assist.-Surgs. Renton and Martin; Ridingmasters Robinson and Stainland, and Veterinary-Surg. Healy. 9th Brigade Royal Artillery—Lieut. Col. Gray, Mrs. Gray, and child; Assist.-Surg. Kynesy, wife, and child; Capt. Sadlier and wife, Second Capt. Bond and wife; Lieuts. Brown and wife, Johnson, Stephen, and Browell and Mrs. Browell. 8th Brigade Royal Artillery—Capts. Warry and Totenham, Lieut.-Chapman. 5th Brigade—Lieuts. Longcroft and Campbell. 6th Brigade—Lieut. Mayhaw. 19th Brigade—Lieut. Leach, Ensign Best, 104th Foot; Ensign Spens, 1st Battalion 3rd Foot; Lieut. Fryer, 3rd Battalion 60th Rifles; Quartermaster Guernsey, 45th Foot; Second-Capts. Nelson, R. A., and Alexandre, A.; Assist.-Surgeons Clifton, R.H.A.; Rahelly, [illegible]rn, and Waghorn, Staff; Lieut. Syall and Second-Co[illegible] Tillard, R.A.; Ensign Kellie, 2nd Battalion 10th Foo[illegible] Ensign Gosling, 45th Regiment; men, women, and [illegible]ldren. 15th Hussars—460 non-commissioned officers [illegible]d men, 56 women, 73 children; draughts for various [illegible]iments—540 non-commissioned officers and men, 37 [illegible]en, 65 children. The Serapis also took out to Alexand[illegible] Lieut. A. Duthie, R.N., to join Her Majesty's [illegible]n relief screw troopship Malabar, four warrant officers [illegible]nd 19 seamen.

FORT POLI[illegible] COURT.—13TH DECEMBER.

(Before [illegible]na Morojee, Esq.)

A Sea Case.—Mich[illegible] McCarthy and two other seamen of the British sh[illegible] Peerless were charged with wilful disobedience of la[illegible] commands in refusing to do duty on board the ship [illegible] and were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for a[illegible] night.

Theft of a Tony.—Chirpa[illegible]era, a fisherman, was charged with stealing from [illegible]pattimar a tony (or small boat). He was also charg[illegible] with another similar offence and was sentenced to fi[illegible] youths' hard labour.

False Pretences.—Oodowjee Pra[illegible]e was sentenced to five months' imprisonment for c[illegible]ining by false pretences one rupee and eight ann[illegible] from Rama Bowajee.

Thefts.—Rama Luxmon was charged [illegible]h stealing a quantity of rice belonging to Tickum [illegible]ajee, and was sentenced to receive six stripes.—Ram[illegible] Gunnoo was sentenced to receive eight stripes for [illegible]ling a silver waist belt belonging to Marootee Saijee.

GIRGAUM POLICE COURT.—13TH D[illegible]

(Before R. H. Sh[illegible]ell, Esq.)

Assault.—Mahomed Ameer was charged with committing an assault against the person of Ameena, woman, and was on conviction fined five rupees, or in default sentenced to be imprisoned for seven days.

Gambling.—Allaruckia Mahomed and five others were charged with gambling in a public place. On information received Mr. Inspector Sweeney went to the place where defendants were gambling. He found them sitting in a circle and gambling with cards, and as soon as he laid hold of one of them the others ran away, but they were soon arrested by a police peon. The defendants were convicted and fined five rupees each, with an alternative of seven days' imprisonment.—Mahadoo Luxmon and Dewjee Luxmon were charged with a similar offence, and were on conviction fined one rupee each.

Theft.—Ameerkhan Sirdarkhan, a vagrant, was charged with stealing a gold ornament, value Rs. 10, belonging to Dackoo Rama. The prisoner was adjudged guilty and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for two months.

THE NEW HOTEL AT CAIRO.

As the opening of the Suez Canal is turning men's minds towards Egypt, the *Builder* describes the Oriental Hotel Company's new hotel at Cairo, which has recently been opened for the convenience of travellers to the Nile, and by the overland route to India, as also for the reception and accommodation of the many invalids who find benefit from a winter residence in Cairo. The hotel is beautifully situated, facing the gardens of the Ezbekiah and the Rue de Boulaac, and commands a good view of the Pyramids. The foundation-stone was laid in Jan., 1865. The hotel, when completed, is intended to form a quadrangle (with large open gardens in the centre), of which only the principal front, facing the Boulevard d'Ezbekiah, and a portion of the return fronts facing the Rue de Boulaac and the new street, have been as yet erected. The building is Franco-Italian in style, and has been erected from the designs, and under the superintendence of Mr. C. G. Wray, of London. It is constructed with stone from the neighbouring quarries, with terra-cotta enrichments which were sent from London, as also were all the woodwork and fittings. The portion at present built has a frontage toward the Boulevard d'Ezbekiah of about 400ft in length, and returns about 86ft towards the Rue de Boulaac, and about 140ft towards the new street, and it is about 70ft high. It contains upon the ground floor a *café*, 61ft by 36ft; *table d'hôte* room, about 80ft by 30ft; bazaar, 61ft by 36ft; billiard-room and suites of public offices, all 21ft high; as also a grand staircase, 60ft by 23ft; and at the rear a kitchen department, serving-rooms, and other offices. The hotel is surrounded on all floors by wide verandahs, affording a passage way around the building, and supplying a comfortable lounge. The *table d'hote* room is supplied with an orchestra for evening entertainments, and is laid with parquetrie, so as to afford a dancing floor. The total cost of the portion of the building already erected has exceeded £100,000.

CUTLER PALMER'S WINE CIRCULAR.

London: 44, Mark Lane, 19th November, 1869.

We have the pleasure to submit the following "extracts" from letters received from our agents in the wine districts, concerning the vintages just completed.

Our Bordeaux House writes:—"The weather served us well during the last month the fruit was on the vines, and had it not been for the fortunate continuation of rain and sunshine during that period, the grapes, when gathered, would have been little better than currants. It is somewhat early to speak of the new wines with absolute confidence, but we shall be much mistaken if they do not take rank with those of 1834, '46, '47, '48, &c. The yield, under the circumstances, has been most favourable."

"We confirm our report of last year touching 1868's, they are maturing well, and our friends will, we are sure, appreciate them when ready for shipment."

Epernay.—"Very good, but also very little, and the new wines have been fetching extremely high prices. 1868's are developing quite as we could wish." (The popularity in India of this and the German sparkling Wines is a source of gratification to us, but likewise of much anxiety, owing to the serious losses we make through breakage and deterioration. Constant endeavours are made on our part to introduce improvements in mode of corking, packing, &c., meanwhile we must continue to claim indulgence for occasional shortcomings in the condition of these wines, as such are caused by heat of climate, improper stowage in transit up country, &c., and also oftentimes by excessive iceing.) —*Extract from C. P. & Co.'s Annual Report of* 1868.

Dijon.—"Our new vintage greatly resembles that of 1865, and is of remarkable quality as far as we can judge at present. We repeat our good opinion of last year's wines,—they are fruity, generous, and ripe."

The Rhine and Moselle.—"The vintage is progressing towards completion. We believe that the wines will not be remarkable for excellence, but that they will be good, nevertheless, we feel sanguine, although not comparing with those of last year."

Jerez.—"The wine made is very good, but we are sorry to say the quantity is very short of what it should be; at any rate it will be valuable stock to hold, and we are well satisfied with the provision we have made of it."

Oporto.—"Our grapes were ruined by the bad weather in September, and most of the wine made is not fit for exportation. It is lucky we can fall back on our excellent 1868's. We shall not have to trouble you again with any reference to 1869's."

Cognac.—"The vintage has been highly successful, and the new wine promises to make excellent brandy in point of quality."

From the foregoing it will be seen that almost in every case we can place reliance upon this year's wines. We have now had two excellent vintages in succession, and look forward with much satisfaction to the prospect of being able to follow up the good wines of 1865 with others equally good.

COLABA OBSERVATORY.

Results of Meteorological Observations made at the Government Observatory, Colaba, Latitude—18° 53' 30" N., long 4h. 51m. 16s. E. Height of Barometer above the Sea—37 feet.

Mean daily values deri[illegible] from 24 hourly observations on

December 11.

Barometer, corrected to 32 deg. Fah	·892	inches
Temperature of the Air	75·9	,,
Wet Bulb Thermometer	69·7	,,
Dew Point	65·2	,,
Relative Humidity of Air	·701	,,
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded=1)	0·0	,,
Maximum temperature of air (read at 9½ A.M.) on following days	82·9	,,
Minimum do. do.	70·4	,,
Gen. Direction of Wind	NE, NW, NNW, N.	
Movement in 24 hours	245	miles.

THE BOMBAY, BARODA, AND CENTRAL INDIA RAILWAY.

CIRCULAR TO THE PROPRIETORS.

Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway.
45, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C.,
13th November, 1869.

Sir,—I am desired by the Board in conveying to you the above notice convening an extraordinary general meeting of the proprietors, for Monday, the 22nd inst., to call the attention of the shareholders to the present aspect of the question of railway extension in India, especially as affecting their undertaking.

The Government, as is now well known, have laid down a scheme for the construction of several thousand additional miles of railway in India. Of these, they propose to make the principal lines themselves, using in some instances the agency of the existing companies for the constructions of extensions or branches to their already sanctioned lines.

In prosecution of this plan, His Grace the Duke of Argyll has communicated with the directors to the effect that, while reserving the Rajpootana (or Delhi and Agra) line for construction by Government, he offers to this company the extension to Veerumgaum and Wudwan in Kattiawar, about 73 mils in length, on the following terms and conditions, viz.:—

I. The capital to be raised under the Government Guarantee of interest at 5 per cent. per annum, the shares being issued at such premium, and on such terms as may be considered advisable at the time of issue.

II. The extension, when completed, to form part and parcel of the existing undertaking.

III. The clause in the existing contract as to the division of surplus profits to be revised; such profits (over 5 per cent. per annum) being divided equally between the Government and the company during the whole period of the contract, and the Secretary of State cancelling the existing debt for guaranteed interest, and taking no account as against the company of future advances.

IV. A more defined power to be given to Government in repect of the Veerumgaum-Wudwan extension during its construction, in reference to "supervision" and "possession as remedy."

With regard to this proposal by Government, the Board would remind the proprietors that, owing principally to the sea competition, the time when the existing line (apart from any extensions) will earn the full guaranteed interest may still be considered as somewhat distant. Hence the anxiety of the Board and the officers of the company that economical and fruitful extensions should be made with as little delay as possible. In such a category would certainly be placed those into Kattiawar (the produce of which province is now principally carried by sea) and the cotton producing districts of Guzerat. They can be made at a low rate of cost; they will be worked with the company's present rolling stock; and they will bring a large accession of traffic to the existing line, whilst greatly aiding in the development of the trade of the country. Other short branches in the same category might hereafter be successfully carried out.

The Rajpootana line, when constructed and connected with the existing railway (and in relation to which this company has an unquestionable claim), will add considerably to the through traffic, and will constitute [illegible] far the shortest route between Bombay and Delhi [illegible] Agra.

[illegible]e directors, deeming it essential therefore, both for [illegible] development of the country and the profit of the existi[illegible] line, that extensions such as those referred to should [illegible] made, are prepared to recommend the terms proposed [illegible]y the Secretary of State for the adoption of the prop[illegible]tors, and thus to co-operate with the Government [illegible] the improvement of the internal communications of In[illegible].

With regard to the surplus profits, the company may possibly be giving up something in admitting the Government to an equal partnership in them for the whole term of the contract; but on the other hand, the debt to the Government for interest advances (amounting to £1,660,856 to the 30th June last), with interest thereon is cancelled, a simple arrangement is substituted, and the advent of surplus profits is brought nearer by the construction of the new lines.

It will be seen that the above defined power referred to in condition No. 4 will in no way affect the existing undertaking.

The Board recommend the foregoing proposal to the shareholders for their acceptance, and resolutions for this purpose will be submitted at the extraordinary general meeting on the 22nd instant. I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

J. A. Bayne, Secretary.

RESPECTABLE AMUSEMENTS.

What are respectable amusements? We mean what are considered such in Calcutta? Cricket and croquet rank as the most innocent of pleasures, though the latter is not without its dangers. A picnic, if the company be select, may be enjoyed without a loss of social caste, but the opera is the most refined and aristocratic of delights. At all these—cricket, croquet, and opera (though at cricket the ladies are most pleased when it is "all over"), the pleasures of flirting and small talk may be carried on without let or hindrance, many a man who could never put his ball through a hoop has found himself fairly caught in the matrimonial hoop on the lawn; but the confirmed bachelor prefers the opera, as though noisier yet less dangerous ground. To women who marry to flirt, and to flirts who flirt to marry, the opera has peculiar attractions; and it being a fashionable entertainment, of course nothing better can be said in its favour. Were it not so, it would be a social mystery why English people go to the opera. Foreigners go to hear the music, and they understand what they hear. Your genuine Englishman goes because it is the fashion to go, because it is expensive, and because his appearance there argues amongst his neighbours who can't afford the like pleasure, that he is somebody in the social scale; about music he knows as much, and cares as much, as the chair he sits upon; but it is the right thing to do the opera and he does it. It is to him a frightful social penal infliction, but being an aristocratic punishment, he bears his fate like a martyr. He would be ostracised from society did he do otherwise; his wife and daughters would turn against him in wrath—his would be a house divided against itself, and his last state would be worse than his first when he yielded to the influence of fashion. He finds, therefore it is better to submit, and he therefore patronizes that which he hates and which bores him. The ladies are quite as indifferent to the charms of song and melody, but are more determined on the necessity of appearing at the opera. The *Times* long inveighed against the wickedness of Verdi's *Traviata*, but it might have kept its lectures and warnings in the MS., for *Traviata* continues to be played, and its syren songs to be sung, and if no fair one is made the better thereby, none are made the worse. The fair frequenters of the opera house trouble themselves little about the plot. Hecuba is nought to them, nor they to Hecuba. They go simply to see and to be seen, and if the musical enthusiast regrets such indifference to the concord of sweet sounds the moralist must rejoice that in the atmosphere of evil, Innocence can breathe so freely. Leaving the opera let us go to the theatre—we are writing, be it remembered, of Calcutta;—what a falling off is here! Aristocratic Chowringhee shuns the house as if it were plague-stricken. Does it fear to meet vulgar Entally, or dread the contamination of Bow Bazaar? Not a bit of it! Chowringhee will brave all dangers of such kind, provided that the performance be under the patronage of the Governor-General; and it will even throng to the humble Circus if His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal be the patron of the night. These absent, Chowringhee is absent. Shakespeare himself might strut on the stage of Mr. Lewis' Theatre, and the veritable Mazeppa ride the wild horse at Abell's Circus, but without the attraction of a Patron Saint of Fashion, the one would play and the other ride to "a beggarly account of empty boxes." The late Mr. Charles Kean, when in Austr[illegible] wrote to the editor of one of the Calcutta journals, saying that to visit India was the dream of his life, and inquired whether it would pay his expenses to give—with Mrs. Kean—readings from Shakespeare. We do not know if the reply ever reached him; but we believe it was to the effect that Shakespeare, if known here, was certainly not appreciated, and that no actor could ensure for himself a full house unless he could sing local personalities with a blackened face or engage a Governor-General or Commander-in-Chief as the patron of the night's entertainment. How is the social philosopher to account for this? An English drama should be better understood by Englishmen than an Italian Opera; the music is better appreciated, owing to organ-grinding reminiscences, and yet the theatre does not draw as does the opera house. Fashion will not allow it.

It is to be hoped that this idiotic *kotowing* to fashion will soon cease, though the visit of His Royal Highness will, we fear, not tend to so devoutly wished for a consummation. Women will still offer themselves as victims to this Juggernaut, and will go on in the way they have ever done for Fashion not Love is now the Lord of all.—*Calcutta Daily Examiner*, Dec. 7.

Theft of nearly £1,000 by boys.—The *Manchester Guardian* of Nov. 19 says, that a couple of boys are just now "wanted" by the police at Walsall, on the charge of being concerned in the theft some weeks ago of nearly £1,000 (in gold, notes, and drafts) from the premises of Messrs. Duynan, Lewis, and Lewis, solicitors of that town. Their names are Samuel Thompson, aged 16, lately in Messrs. Duynan's employ, and Thomas Simpson, aged 17, one of his associates. Thompson continued to attend to his duties, without exciting suspicion, until Saturday last. He has since been absent from home, and he and the other have been traced to London, where they had engaged berths in a vessel about to sail for Australia. This latter fact came to the knowledge of Simpson's father before it was known to the police, and he made inquiries at the shipping office which alarmed the lads and caused them to abscond, whither it is not known.

CONSIDERATE HINTS.

A correspondent in Oudh sends the *Englishman* an extract from a proclamation signed "L. Barrow," and dated 2nd December, which deserves to be preserved.

"In making arrangements for the attendance of talukdars, Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners are to bear it fully in mind that the Chief Commissioner strongly deprecates the idea of any profuse or unnecessary expenditure being incurred. The talukdars as a body are to have it impressed upon them that *the dresses and caparisons bought for the last durbar will do very well for this* and officers might use their influence to prevent (or indeed if necessary prohibit) from attendance those talukdars who are much involved and unable to bear such outlay as is inevitable.

"Further, talukdars should be made to understand that it is not desired that they should come attended by large bodies of retainers. The object as regards the procession is to have a show of elephants: that will give dignity to those who bring them and afford pleasure to His Royal Highness, to whom the sight of an elephant procession will be a novelty. But it is no novelty to His Royal Highness to see crowds of human beings, and thus while large bodies of retainers would constitute the main item of expenditure, their entertainment would be attended by no compensating advantage. In the mere public spectacle, *they would be nowhere!* In the Durbar they would be of no possible use, for they would be altogether unseen, and the heavy expense of bringing them into Lucknow may therefore well be avoided."

INDIAN ITEMS.

The prospectus of another Indian Assurance Society comes to us from Madras. It is to be called *the South Indian Mutual Assurance Association*. The prospectus presents no new features. As far as we can see, it is meant to be a purely local affair based on the collapse of the Madras agency of the Albert Assurance Company. It seems to us that the assurers in this society would do well, instead of frittering away their strength, to wait for the results of the efforts made by their representatives in London, in conjunction with the majority of the English and other policy-holders, to retrieve the consequences of the suspension of the society.—*Englishman*, Dec. 8.

Three executive P. W. D. charges have been abolished in the Central Provinces with result of saving to the State of some five lakhs per annum—the Kunhan Bridge, Nimar and Southern Road Divisions.—*Mofussilite*, Dec. 7.

Railway Accident.—A serious accident by which three coolies (two men and one woman) lost their lives, and another was seriously injured, occurred between Shaipoora and Belpathar, on the G. I. P. R. line, a few days ago. It appears that the coolies were, contrary to orders, sitting on the side of one of the ballast trucks, and that when the train was put in motion they were jerked off on to the rails with the result described.—*Jubbulpore Chronicle*, Dec. 8.

We hear from Ceylon that the Government have purchased eleven Gulf Arabs at an average cost of £80 each for the use of The Duke of Edinburgh and his suite during their visit to the Island.—*Englishman*, Dec. 10.

The Bengal Masonic Association.—This Association established during last year under the presidency of the Provincial Grand Master and devoted to the education of the children of indigent Freemasons in Bengal, is progressing surely and steadily. One excellent rule prohibits any encroachment on sums invested on the capital account, which already amounts to Rs. 9,500 invested in the names of Trustees under Act XXI. of 1863. The first year was of course devoted to collecting sums to form the capital required, but during the present year a sum of Rs. 557-13-7, is available for expenditure, which will be devoted to the purpose of the fund. We hope soon to see the Association in a position to benefit many poor children, and it is as well worthy of support in this country as the Freemason's schools in England. —*Ibid.*

The Agra Bank.—We learn that Messrs. Fitzgerald and Son's tender for the erection of the New Agra Bank has been accepted. The design has been furnished by Mr. Chisholm, the Government Architect, and the site chosen has been one at the south-eastern end of Armenian Street where the old Sailors' Home once stood. The estimated cost of the erection is about Rs. 48,000.—*Madras Athenæum*, Dec. 8.

We observe from the last number of the local Gazette, that several Coffee Estates in Coorg, owned by Europeans as well as natives, are being advertised for sale by public auction in satisfaction of Government dues. This is the result of the introduction of the acreage tax, which is levelled alike on cultivated and uncultivated land, and is justly considered a hardship by all planters. The incidence of the tax is most unfair, and while it is ruinous and unjust in a measure to planters, and discourages many from embarking in coffee speculation, it is at the same time, in our opinion, detrimental to the interests of Government. A memorial to the Chief Commissioner was talked of a few months ago praying for a modification of the present rules—what the result has been we have not heard.—*Bangalore Herald*, Dec. 9.

It is stated in Holy Writ that "a little fire produceth a great matter," and we had an exemplification of it in the story of the cartridges before the mutiny. We regret to observe that a very queer rumour seems to be going abroad that the Duke's event is to be the herald of a compulsory order for all tiled huts to be broken down, and huts with corrugated iron roofs built. At the same time we are informed that the Police go about numbering the huts, which is supposed to lend a colour to the absurd rumour. It is as well to know these things in time, and it is fortunate that the rumour at present is confined to Calcutta. Native rumours and the state of feeling all over the country should be carefully watched, and we sincerely trust that no mischief will accrue from the Prince's visit.—*Indian Daily News*, Dec. 10.

The following are the latest reliable news from Central Asia:—The Ameer finds it unnecessary to proceed to Candahar. Ismael Khan has made overtures to the Ameer, which have been favourably received. Abdool Rahman Khan, who is supposed at present to be in Khiva, has been invited by Ishak Khan to make his way to Kulale to make a demonstration. If Ismael Khan is sincere, the Ameer will not care much for what the other two may do; but should the three lay their heads together, the Ameer may yet have hard fighting to retain his Toorkistan possessions. The present accessions of the winter season, however, closes all military operations for the time, and probably before next spring the few remaining rebels will be convinced of the hopelessness of their cause.—*Ibid.*

Colonel J. T. Walker, R.E., Superintendent of the Trigonometrical Survey, is down at the Presidency to confer with Colonel Thuillier, the Surveyor-General, as to the advisability of having only one office. The question is also to be decided where the office is to be located. On this point it is probable that the recommendation will be to have the office at Dehra Doon. But the question of the union of the two offices may also involve that of the retirement of Colonel Thuillier, whose time must now be nearly up. The union of the two posts of Surveyor-General and Superintendent of the Trigonometrical Survey would have been carried out long ago in the person of Colonel Walker had not Colonel Thuillier stood in the way. The latter's claims, however, for the post of Surveyor-General, were considered too weighty to be passed over; while not being of the scientific branch of the service, he could not take charge of the other branch. The union of the two, and a single office, will likewise prove economical.—*Ibid.*

A Chinese View of English Law.—A Chinese thus describes a trial in the English Law Courts:—"One man is quite silent, another talks all the time, and twelve wise men condemn the man who has not said a word."—*La Gaulois*.

There has lately been a most horrible massacre perpetrated at Fiji. A Mr. Lattin, who, it is said, was formerly a storekeeper in Melbourne, had shipped about 250 natives on board the French barque Morea. Their ultimate destiny was, it is believed, Queensland; but it seems that the islanders rose *en masse*, and mercilessly killed every white man on board, with the exception of the mate. They then jumped overboard, with the intention of swimming on shore, but only about 30 reached the land, 255 having, it is supposed, been drowned.

In our condemnation of the use of *propertied* and other similar words in "Table Talk" of last week we were guilty of an unintentional plagiarism. In his "Table Talk," p. 181, Coleridge says—"I regret to see that vile and barbarous vocable *talented*, standing out of the newspapers into the leading reviews and most respectable publications of the day. Why not *shil-inged*, *forthinged*, *tenpenced*, &c.? The formation of a participle-passive from a noun is a license that nothing but a very peculiar felicity can excuse." What would he have said to the *Spectator's propertied*, to which we called attention? Coleridge, however, appears to be in error himself when he calls *talented*, *gifted*, &c., participle-passive. They are more properly adjectives formed from nouns. *Dot-tempered*, *good-natured*, &c., are examples of similarly formed adjectives: these words are sanctioned by very general use, and seem well enough in their way; but no first-rate writer that we know of uses either *moneyed*, *talented*, *propertied*, &c. *Once a Week*.

JAVA.

By the latest news from Java we learn that the volcanic mountain Lobstobi had burst into an eruption, accompanied by a severe shock and trembling as if of an earthquake, which lasted for a considerable time. Two villages on the South East side of the mountain were burnt down and two men lost their lives by the burning lava falling on them.

The cultivation of Cinchona is being rapidly extended in Java and plants and seeds have been sent to the Moluccas, Celebes and the West Coast of Sumatra for experimental gardens. The residents in Java are also continually making applications for seeds or cuttings. Analyses of the bark show it to be very strong in alkaloids, and the quinine is said to be of excellent quality.—*Englishman*.

LORD NAPIER ON THE FINE ARTS IN INDIA.

[A LECTURE DELIVERED IN MADRAS.]

Gentlemen,—The learned and reverend persons who have preceded me in this chair have addressed you on topics of more momentous interest than that which I have selected. Matters connected with religion, ethics, history, and social science have been successively passed under review. Those are the questions which concern us most deeply, which affect us most strongly, which strike to the basis of society, which involve our temporal and our eternal welfare. I have chosen a theme of a character less grave, one which stands upon the second line, and for the following reasons. It is one upon which little has been said to Indian audiences, yet which may suggest many reflections to the natives of this country; it is, as far as possible, a neutral subject on which I can speak with liberty and without offence; it is congenial to my inclinations, though I may scarcely affirm that it is within my competency; I can approach it with affection if not with sufficient knowledge.

The fine arts, as generally understood, comprehend the arts of architecture, painting, sculpture, and music. I have enumerated them in the order in which they are commonly ranked by the instinctive assent of men, and which fairly represents their relative importance. Architecture is an art of necessity as well as of decoration, it is closely associated with the mechanical sciences, with productive industry, with commerce; with public safety, with public economy, with public health, with the practice of religion. It is the art of the temple, the forum, the market, and the theatre, the art which does the greatest amount of service and provides the greatest amount of recreation for the greatest number. It is the protection and the home of the other arts the most glorious, comprehensive and permanent of all painting including the subordinate arts of design, is placed next on account of the vast range of subjects which it embraces. It is the flexible, faithful, discriminating interpreter, of nature animate and inanimate, in all her manifestations. There is no form, however pure, that the pencil cannot follow, no effect, however transient, that it cannot fix, no event that it cannot commemorate, no passion, no sentiment, that it cannot embody and translate. Painting is a universal language and a universal lesson. Sculpture, of all the arts the most difficult, has a more restricted field. Its aims are more sublime, concentrated, and intense. The material is precious, the manipulation is arduous, the production is costly. It confers on the artist the most durable fame, and affords to the multitude the least enjoyment. While the fine arts are related through architecture to science and through painting and sculpture to history and religion, they are connected by music with poetry. Music by itself as an exponent of human thought is less exact than the two sister arts. Except in the simple form of national and sacred melody it is more fugitive and capricious, yet music has the privilege of being in a higher degree sympathetic and contagious. It contains a voice for every individual joy and sorrow, it transmits the feeling of one with greater energy and warmth to the hearts of all. In attempting to discriminate the fine arts by a few characteristic strokes, I would say that architecture is utility with ornament, painting, instruction and beauty, sculpture, the ideal, music, emotion.

Let us now inquire into the condition of the fine arts in this country with the view of determining how far they severally respond to their proper aims, and how they can be made to do so better.

Architecture comprises two principal elements, material and style.

With reference to material it may be affirmed that all materials are good when good of their kind and appropriately treated. Stone, brick, wood, and iron, the substances most familiar to the builder, have all their proper spheres and uses, and none will be rejected or undervalued by an enlightened taste. The architect indeed shows a superior ability in availing himself of the cheap natural resources at hand, in improving them to the utmost, and in employing them in conformity with their several mechanical properties and plastic or decorative aptitudes. The true artist will despise nothing in nature, but teach nature to obey his craft.

In selecting material then the architect will consider two things chiefly,—(1.) The sources of supply. (2.) The object of the structure; and having selected his material he will use it honestly.

In a country where stone abounds, stone will be used. If it is of a hard quality and difficult to work, the structure will assume a plainer and severer form. The eye of the spectator will be satisfied with the beauty of the outline and of the material. Good taste is a very accommodating and indulgent power. It will not expect from granite what it expects from lime-stone, in fact, it would rather reprobate a curious and superfluous expenditure of labour on an obdurate material. If, on the other hand, the stone is soft and tractable to the chisel, the material will justify a free, diversified, and

decided that the bill did not raise a case for his interference. The place where the agent had been employed was in America, and if he there failed in his duties, the United States was the country in which any suit arising out of the matter should be instituted. The questions were properly before the Courts of the United States, and it would be a violation of the principles on which the comity of Courts was founded to grant the application. But this judgment, if we may express a doubt, though the Vice-Chancellor did not think it necessary to call the defendant's counsel, apparently contradicts the Chancery traditions,—an English plaintiff being denied the restitution of his property by an English Court of Justice without even an investigation of his assertions. Suppose the allegation had been that the bills were *stolen* in America. Must the English Courts refuse to interfere because the stolen property has afterwards come into this country to facilitate some proceedings in the exercise of a foreign Court's jurisdiction? How can it matter in what way the property comes within the jurisdiction? The case certainly pushes to a great length the doctrine of comity, and, though the leaning should certainly be that way, though it is proper and natural that national Courts should not compete for jurisdiction after the fashion of the old internal contests between Courts in the same country,—the question in the present instance perhaps deserved more ample discussion than it received.

General Grant not long since ordered a day of thanks giving for the prosperity of his country, but notwithstanding this it becomes more necessary to note every day the bitter complaints of the artificial poverty created by the tariff. Even the cotton mills, which are supposed to have acquired the American trade formerly enjoyed by Lancashire, are suffering from depression just as Lancashire is. But perhaps no production suffers more than that of woollens. According to the New York *Evening Post*, the effect of the prohibitory duties "has been to assist in cheapening wool and woollen goods in European markets, which, in conjunction with the rise of price in American markets, again enabled importations to take place. "Even the enormous duties on manufactured woollens could not 'protect' our mills against their cheap cloths; they are undersold even at home by the British, although these duties are so high that nothing but expensive smuggling can account for the low prices of many foreign cloths in the United States. But the advantage of the European mills in all the finer fabrics is so great that, even after paying fifty cents per pound and 35 per cent. on their value besides, they can sell their goods here more cheaply than those made here. Our mills are ruined, and those who want to enjoy the blessings of protection have plenty of chances to buy well-appointed factories at a small percentage of their actual cost. Nor are the wool growers better off. The inquiry for the raw material here has been discouraged by this breaking up of the trade, so that it has brought them fewer cents in paper since the high tariff was passed than it did in gold before." This is what happens in one staple industry in a year of prosperity for which thanksgiving is ordered, and there is no end to tell. The consumers of woollen goods feel the pressure of the tax which benefits the protected trades so little. The United States *Economist* takes "the case of woollen blankets, an article that certainly does not come within the category of mere luxuries. They sell in England, common at 3s 6d per pair, or 1 dol 44c in specie. The duty on them is 20c per lb, or 1 dol 60c—more than the original cost of the article. There is still, however, an additional *ad valorem* duty of 35 per cent., amounting to 40 cents on this kind of blankets. The duty, therefore, on a pair of 1 dol 44c blankets is 2 dols, or 56c more than the original cost. Yet, strange to say, the Government did not realise a single dollar last year from the blankets. The increased price went into the pockets of capitalists, and the amount represents the burden imposed upon the consumers." The same things are said of carpets and breadstuffs, and other branches of industry, while, besides, the taxation of the tariff pressing very hard. All the while the best the Protectionists can say is that there has been over-production at home and that this is the secret of the depression, which may be so far true of the narrower market which high prices have caused, though the evidence of smuggling and of importations under high duties proves the existence of a demand which the American producer is unable to meet. It would really seem as if the Americans were beginning to understand the evils of their financial and monetary system, though it is difficult to see how it can be radically altered now without disagreeable shocks and a great displacement of labour.

M. DE LESSEPS A SCOTCHMAN!

Everybody knows, or if anybody does not he need only consult a Scotch friend on the subject, that all great men come from north of the Tweed. Possibly they may not all have been actually born there, but it is sure to be discovered some day that at the least they are Caledonian by descent. We need not be surprised, therefore, to learn that the distinguished projector of the Suez Canal is a Scotchman. According to the special correspondent of the *Telegraph* M. de Lesseps is of Scotch extraction, his family having gone over to France with James II. A Lesseps was architect of St. Giles's Cathedral at Edinburgh, and a "forbear" of the hero of the isthmus. From the same correspondent's account we find, however, that it would be difficult to say with what nation M. de Lesseps is not in one way or another connected. By his mother he is related to Spain and, in a not very remote cousinship, to the Empress of the French; and the young lady whom he is about to marry is soon as the first cousin once removed of a British subject, having been born in the Mauritius.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

MR. CARLYLE "TAKEN DOWN A PEG."

The following letter appears in the *Times*:—"Sir,—You take notice of Mr. Thomas Carlyle's letter to Dr. Longmuir, of Aberdeen, in reference to the mistake in the inscription on the pedestal of Marshal Keith's statue at Peterhead. Mr. Carlyle is quite correct in saying that the gallant Marshal perished at 'Hochkirch,' not 'Hochkirchen,' but in correcting one mistake, he makes a blunder quite equal, if not superior to the original one. He goes on saying that 'there is no such place as Hochkirchen in the world, nor ever will be.' Now, I do not want to speak badly of Mr. Carlyle's knowledge of my native tongue, but I let the facts speak for themselves. I was born in a place called Hochkirchen (the name is actually spelt with 'en'), a little village of 400 inhabitants in the province of Aix-la-Chapelle, and, still more, I happen to have a cousin of mine married at another Hochkirchen, a village of about 800 inhabitants, in Austrian Silesia, district of Troppau. These facts may tend to refute Mr. Carlyle's bold assertion that 'there never will be' a place called Hochkirchen; and besides, I might add that there are scores of geographical and proper names formed in exactly the same way. Of the latter I will only name Count Taufkirchen, the Bavarian Ambassador at St. Petersburg.—Your obedient servant, A German."

AN OLD PUBLIC SERVANT.

Whatever reluctance there may sometimes be to dismiss a public servant who from age has become unfitted for the proper discharge of his duties, there is one office concerning which there should be no false sentiment, and which should be instantly vacated when the functions attached to it cannot be fulfilled with that skill and capacity which are requisite for their due performance. We allude to the office of public hangman. In the account of the execution of Joseph Welsh at Maidstone Gaol on Monday (Nov. 15) it is stated that "the adjustment of the rope was slow and bungling, and such as to show that Calcraft's age has unfitted him for his occupation." Now there should be no mistake on this point. Hanging, as at present conducted, is far more terrible than most people imagine. Not one criminal in a thousand who is hanged has his neck dislocated. He dies from strangulation. This of itself is bad enough; but if added to this we have an infirm and incapable hangman, all the horrors that may be inflicted on those who are condemned to die on the gallows? We have on a former occasion called attention to the doubtful merits of the mode in which our wretched criminals are "launched into eternity." Would not the approaching superannuation of Mr. Calcraft be a good opportunity of considering whether some improvement might not be effected, by which we might extinguish life without inflicting torture?—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

The Mayor of a French town has issued a declaration forbidding "music in the village inns, cafés, eating-houses, and other public places, without our authorization. It is also forbidden to give balls, soirees, or concerts, in the same places without our permission." His worship is evidently mad.

The late Lord Derby was a special lover of children, and he wrote at least one book designed for their special use. It may not be so generally known that some of the designs in Mr. John Parry's "Comic Latin," guinea book, "Ridiculous Things, Scraps and Oddities," were originally drawn by him, at Lord Derby's request, for the amusement of his family.—*Once a Week.*

Judge (to grocerywoman)—Have you any ground pepper? Grocerywoman—Yes; but it's half peas. Judge—Then let me have some of the peas pepper. Grocerywoman—All right; but that's half peas, Judge—Well, if that's so, I'll have to go somewhere else. How does it happen? Grocerywoman—Why, Judge, just look at the label—p-e-p-p-e-r—if half of that isn't p's, I don't know the alphabet.

A correspondent of "Once a Week" writes:—Mr. Punch, has lately published some curious Amsterdam advertisements composed in a most remarkable dialect of Dutch and English combined. The following, which I copied from a wall in Antwerp lately, may amuse your readers:—"Grote Hall of the young and beautiful geantese from the black forest. This young woman that not at been in Antwerp been only aged of 19 years and is highnesse measure nearer whown 2 m. (? metres) wel maker and proportioned, she hat a verry wel physiognomy because his beauty the fineness and the regularity been admired by al the man which hat see her. Miss Angele dare tell upon the goodwill and the visitation of the inhabitangs from this city. This hal been a very wel decorated and worth visit." Is it not a curious jumble? It is strange that, in a town where English is so commonly spoken, they cannot set forth a better written advertisement than the above.

A writer in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, a short time ago, in a severe critique upon the faults of Dr. Cumming's style and grammar, both English and Latin, laid himself open to ridicule, like a schoolmaster, who, in caning a boy, should over-reach himself and topple over his pupil. Dr. Cumming, it seems, has written that "unpolite means literally living out of the city." This his Zolina calls "gross ignorance," adding, "everyone that knows Latin ought to know that unpolite means unpolished." To Latin ought to know that unpolite means unpolished." To this one feels inclined to answer in the words of Mrs. Gamp, "who denies of it?" The elephant of Hindu mythology stands on the tortoise, but what does the tortoise stand upon? What does *unpolished* mean? Surely its original signification is "unlike dwellers in cities." *Polite, civil, urbane*, as "anyone who knows Latin ought to know," mean the same thing (only one is Greek and the others Latin), viz., *townified* in contradistinction to *countrified*. The idea expressed is, that men, by the constant close contact they undergo in town life, rub off their roughnesses and acquire a certain smoothness and uniformity of surface which we therefore call *polish*.—*Once a Week.*

A SEVERE WINTER PREDICTED.

Among the weather prophets who announce the approach of an exceptionally severe winter is the writer of the agricultural article in the *Patrie*, M. Heuzé, who brings forward a long array of statistics in support of his prognostications. According to his theory peculiarly cold winters recur with almost unvarying regularity every ten years, and, if his data are correct, the facts certainly seem to afford fair grounds for his assertion. Thus, in 1789 the frost was so severe that in many parts of France wine was frozen in the cellars; in 1799 there were forty-nine days of unbroken frost; in 1809 the Seine, the Loire, and many other rivers were completely covered with ice; the winters of 1819 and 1829 were unprecedented in severity and in the misery they entailed on the poorer classes; while, in more recent days, the winter of 1840 (the only case in which his calculation proves wrong by one year) will long be remembered for its fifty-nine days of frost, of which twenty-seven were consecutive, the coldest day being that on which the second funeral of Napoleon took place. Again, in 1859 the thermometer fell to twenty degrees centigrade below freezing point, equivalent to four degrees Fahr. below zero. On this principle of decennial recurrence the author warns us to prepare for a season of extreme rigour.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

A STRANGE STORY.

We should be sorry to cast ridicule upon those advocates of "woman's rights" who restrict their demands within bounds which all the world is disposed to respect. Let women have an equal chance with men in all callings or professions—let inequalities of the laws be redressed. But some of the female regenerators of society go to work in a very strange way if they really wish to exalt their sex. A correspondent of an evening contemporary met a missionary of this kind the other night. She had taken possession of his sleeping berth. He remonstrated with her, but she merely replied that she was not afraid to sleep in his room. Of course, she never asked a question about *his* feelings in the matter. Presently the gentleman thought to frighten his unwelcome visitor. He began to throw off his clothes. The strong-minded one very naturally despised the artifice. She was "not afraid" of a man, no matter in what guise he presented himself. The owner of the stateroom laid himself down to sleep; the lovely woman did the same, having first "made herself ready." We confess that this is a truly alarming narrative. Woman is asserting her rights at a rate which promises to make some of us extremely uncomfortable. Where is it all to stop? The invader of the sleeping car, we are told, "bears a name which is perpetually appearing in the papers." She only carries her progress into practice, poor thing. But really it is getting to be a very serious business for the inferior creature called man.—*New York Times.*

A NOVEL DUEL.

The *Messager de Toulouse* gives an account of another hostile meeting in France, the combatants being women, whose mode of fighting suggest an improvement in duelling. Annon B. and Jeanneton L. had a difference respecting a sum of seventy-five centimes which had been lent by the former to the latter. Happening to meet on market-day, strong expressions were used on both sides—one calling the other a "cheat," and the other retorting by the term "miser." Annon, intent on paying herself, seized the handle of a basket of eggs which Jeanneton carried; a struggle ensued, the eggs began to fly furiously and fast, and both combatants were freely bespattered about the face and neck with the yolk and shell. An elegantly-dressed young gentleman in the crowd made himself somewhat prominent by inappropriate mirth; this diverted the anger of Annon and Jeanneton from each other, and their concentrated wrath fell upon the head of him who mocked them. About two-thirds of the contents of Jeanneton's hamper had been consumed in the encounter; the remaining eggs were expended by the justly indignant women on the well-dressed offender, to the complete destruction of his irreproachable garments, and his utter confusion. There can be little doubt that the egg might with advantage be substituted for the sword in French duels. In nine cases out of ten, the damage done, and the annoyance inflicted, by the egg would exceed that which is produced by the employment of the deadlier weapon.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

RUSSIA AND CENTRAL ASIA.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette* says that "the ill-will with which England is regarded in Russia is slowly but steadily increasing," and that an impression is spreading in the Russian capital "that the complications in Central Asia must lead to a violent collision with the ruler of India." Referring to a recent article in the *Moscow Gazette*, the correspondent observes that this paper speaks with the greatest enthusiasm of the approaching opening of the Suez Canal, which, it thinks, will make Russia the arbiter between Europe and Asia, and drive England from the position she occupies in the East; and that the real reason of the coldness recently shown by the Russian organs towards Prussia is the belief that the English and Prussian interests are identical. Another article in the *Moscow Gazette*, dated the 25th of October (6th of November), says that Russian commerce with Central Asia is acquiring a great development, especially in the direction of Kashgar, which promises to furnish a more considerable field for Russian traders than Bokhara, but that the Russians find themselves baffled at every step by the competition of English goods. "A caravan of 6,560 camels, laden with tea and European merchandise, lately arrived from India by a new route, *via* Afghanistan," says the *Moscow Gazette*; and the best way of opposing the spread of British commerce in these regions is to open new roads to Russian commerce. It accordingly recommends the establishment of a fort and harbour on the Amou-Darya and the commencement of operations against Khiva with a view to "preventing that country from becoming in future a place of refuge for Russia's enemies, whence they may direct attacks on her frontier."—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

SPIRITUALISM.

Spiritualism, if we may credit its French organ, which appears twice a month at Lyons, is making progress in France, especially among the inhabitants of the provincial towns. Readers of this periodical are assured in an editor's standing note that "communications between the spirit world and the corporal world are in the nature of things, and constitute no supernatural fact; and hence traces of them are to be found among every people at every epoch; in the present day they are general and patent to all the world." A medium (anonymous) discourses to his son on the advantages of "la médiumnité," a word which has not as yet received the sanction of that sceptical body the French Academy. This spirit assures us that the faculty of "mediumnité est innée chez tous les hommes, quoiqu'elle ne se développe chez tous également, et la preuve que cette faveur doit être méritée, c'est que dans certains cas elle est retirée à ceux qui en sont plus dignes." In another number the spirit of Lacordaire, who delivers a discourse very different in matter and manner from any that he preached at Notre Dame during his lifetime, comes forward to declare that the Church is one and indivisible, and that to pire Hyacinthe has suffered persecution for maintaining this doctrine. But by far the most garrulous of all the spirits is that of Mdme. Fouquet, who under the heading "Freely ye have received, freely give," communicates each fortnight certain new and sure remedies against all kinds of human disorders. For the jaundice, woodlice and other things stewed in white wine are recommended; for corns, a mixture of alum and lard; for neuralgia, valerian and a foot-bath. In the most recent number is a communication from the Count Branicki, who, perhaps from want of faith in French sculptors, returns to express a hope that the project of erecting a statue to his memory will not be carried out. In its place he would prefer a school for the children of working men; and should his wish be adopted by his fellow-townsmen, he promises that at each distribution of school prizes "son esprit satisfait, planant dans l'espace au-dessus de ces petites têtes blondes et brunes, allant des élèves aux professeurs, leur inspirera de chaleureux discours, de douces paroles de paix, d'amour et de fraternité."—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

In a street in London there is the following sign:—"Messrs. F——, Eradicators of Bugs to the Royal Family."

An American editor writes—"Silence is golden, of course; but the silence of that man to whom we have written for our account is g(n)ilt."

Hero worship is very strong in Hongkong. Admiral Keppell is said to have been cheered at an illumination given there, which made the fine old gentleman, tired of taking off his hat, throw it to the crowd. The precious conquest of vehemence and enthusiasm was seized by the loyal Hongkongites and is now undergoing artistic cutting, in order that its parts may be "set" in lockets to be worn by gushing inhabitants, and handed down as heir-looms.

Woman's Love.—A French woman will love her husband if he is either witty or chivalrous; a German woman, if he is constant and faithful; a Dutch woman, if he does not disturb her ease and comfort too much; a Spanish woman, if he wreaks vengeance on those who incur his displeasure; an Italian woman, if he is dressy and polite; a Danish woman, if he thinks that her native country is the brightest and happiest on earth; a Russian woman, if he despises all Westerners as miserable barbarians; an English woman, if he succeeds in ingratiating himself with the court and the aristocracy; an American woman if—he has plenty of money.

A mute inglorious Milton is a form of genius that must becoming more rare than it was in the time of Gray. A Scotch paper offered prizes varying from £2 10s. down to a book, for the best poem, the best tale, and the best letter written by a boy or girl; and it received in response 420 of the first, 156 of the second, and 57 of the third. These effusions were protected from the inquisitive tendency of the Postmaster-General and his subordinates by mental reservation, security in which great ingenuity in the use of rural resources was displayed, the fastenings employed including "sealing wax, common bees-wax, rosin, weavers' dressing, glue, gum, tape (red, white, and blue), cords of all sizes, from common twine to cart ropes, and brass wire."—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

According to the *North-Eastern Correspondence*, General Count Heyden, assistant to the Russian Minister of War, has addressed a letter to the Society for promoting Russian Industry and Commerce at St. Petersburg, in which he states, that the Ministry is taking steps for opening to the Russian trade with Central Asia the new route by the Volga, the Caspian, and the river Amou-Darya (Oxus), and that Russian merchants will now be enabled to forward goods by that route. The above letter was publicly read at a recent sitting of the society. It would appear from this statement that the establishment of a military depôt at Krasnovodsk, of which the *Invalide Russe* spoke the other day, and the proposed expedition to the frontier of Khiva, have finally been decided upon in the War Office at St. Petersburg.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

EUROPEAN GOSSIP.

Paris, 6th November.

It I told you that the gossip of Paris this week hinged on the visits of half a million of people on Monday and Tuesday to the cemeteries, on the expected popular rising around Baudin's tomb, on the slightly renewed illness of the Emperor at Compiégne, on King Thomas, the new imaginary monarch of Spain, or the coming elections in three *Circonscriptions* of the city, on Scotch plaids, or the strike of *Messieurs les Calicots*, or even on Tyrolean hats, or the most recently invented flounced garter, I should speak falsely, and the truth would be outside me. The topic of the week is *Frou-Frou*. "Who or What on earth," some of my Indian friends will say, "is *Frou-Frou*?" There is not a newspaper's boy, if not a butcher's, in Paris who would not shrug his shoulders at so ignorant an enquiry. Why, my good sirs and dear ladies, *Frou-Frou* is the last new comedy, the most successful one for several years, from the Siamese pen of Messrs. Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy. Plays are never written single-hand in Paris. Dramatic authors of the present day are the greyhounds of literature. They hunt in couples. Such game can never be run down; it is necessary to turn it. You have, of course, heard before the names of these authors, whose highest ambition was supposed to be to do *libretto* for Jacques Offenbach. They gave him delightfully nonsensical words for his sparkling gems of music in *La Vie Parisienne*, *La Belle Helene*, *La Grande Duchesse*, and half a score others. The first thing that occurred to me when the authors kindly sent me a *billet* for the opening night of the new drama was to ask if the music were likely to be pretty. No music, whatever, bless your soul, but a real legitimate comedy, which, from its conclusion and constant influence on the emotions of the audience, might still more appropriately have been called a tragedy Possibly much of its success is owing to the artiste who plays *Frou-Frou*. Mademoiselle Desclée's acting of this part in this tragi-comedy is perfect. The authors kept back the work for nearly three years in search of an artiste likely to embody worthily the principal character. They have found in Mademoiselle Desclée one likely to become the greatest actress of her age. Many people say that such a position might have been attained by the clever and sympathetic Eugénie de Téba, had not fate encircled her fair brow with the diadem of one of the greatest empires on earth. The Emperor is delighted with the manner in which she plays her part in the East, and is not in the least jealous of the Sultan, who is undoubtedly deeply in love with his charming guest. He is no longer the sick man, but a gay squire of dames, and he has even given the lie to the metaphorical sense in which the term was applied by the late Emperor Nicholas, for reform is the order of the day at the Porte, and His Highness is really going to board his great vassal in his den. The last dinner given to the French Empress on the eve of her departure was magnificent in the service and appointments, and all the gold plate and ornaments of the banquet were immediately packed up in her Majesty's baggage as little souvenirs from the Sultan. The banquet was at six o'clock at the Dolma-Bagtche Palace, where the Empress drove in semi-state, surrounded by bearded Turkish officers and Beschi-Bazouks. The lady of France was dressed in a simple but magnificent robe of snowy satin. All ornaments were reserved for her classic head, which was surmounted and slightly surrounded by a small diadem, actually blazing with a constellation of diamonds relieved by a few superb emeralds. All the ladies of her Majesty's suite were also in white. The Sultan sat with the Empress on his right and the Princess Murat on his left. The dinner was served in the throne-room, and two servants in grand livery stood behind each chair. But on such occasions the creature comforts count for much. You may wish to know the *menu* of the Grand Turk's banquet, and I have been able to obtain it. Here it is as printed in pink and gold:—

Consommé à l'impériale.
Paupiette à la reine; Beurek.
Bar, à la Validé.
Poulardes à la Toulouse; Cotelettes de chevreuil aux truffes.
Cailles à la Lucullus; Chaudfroid de filets de Dindonneaux à l'Anglaise.
Panch impérial; Kouzu kebaby.
Faisans et Bécasses rôtis; Buisson de crustacés.
Bamiés, Artichauts garnis de pois.
Truffes au Champagne; Pilaff.
Croustade d'Ananas en Ambiane.
Kéarck lokmazsy et Baklava; Bombes glacées à la Mogador.
Gradin de Pâtisseries.

This is the manner in which the Sultan feeds his imperial guests. But passing down to Egypt, we find the Pacha making liberal and more cunning provision for his powerful friends amongst the invited of the Western Press. Each guest, being a newspaper representative, gets with his apartment a list of the good things which the hotel-keeper with whom he is lodged is obliged, under his contract with the Pacha, to furnish him. It is their own fault if special correspondents from London and Paris do not fasten on the fleshpots of Egypt. There are four meals, and here is what they may call for each day:—Menu journalier, que l'hôtel.....mettra à la disposition de Monsieur .....Dejeuner du Matin—Café au lait et beurre. Thé au lait et rhum. Œufs à la coque ou sur le plat. Chocolat et biscuits. Dejeuner a midi—Hors-d'œuvre ou pilau ou mets pareil. Un plat de viande froide. Un plat de viande grillé. Une entrée de viande. Une entrée de légume. Une entrée de légumes secs ou frais. Pommes de terre à l'Anglaise. Quatre hors-d'œuvre. Quatre desserts divers. Fromage. Café noir. Liqueurs. Dinner a sept heures—Potage varié. Pièce de poisson. Relevé de viande de boucherie. Entrée chaude. Entrée froide Un rôti de volaille—soit dinde, soit gibier. Une salade verte. Une entrée de légumes. Un entremets de pâtisseries. Un entremets de crême. Quatre desserts divers sortis. Fromage. Café noir. Liqueurs assorties. Luncheon à midi—(what a title for a late supper)—This repast is habitual or facultative at the request of the traveller. Wines au dejeuner de midi—Médoc, Château-Margaux, Sauterne. At dinner—Medoc, Madeira, Burgundy. Chateau-Lafitte, Champagne. What do you think of this for the gentlemen of the Press? I am not deep philosophy returned to the ancient land from which all wisdom first issued? The Pacha during his visits to Paris and London must have learned how many a fine fortune has been made by a dinner or two to newspaper people, verily he is as wise in his generation as Prince Napoleon or the Duke of Cambridge, these famous Generals of our later days. The worst of writing of delicately cooked food is that it materializes the mind for the moment, and it rather upsets one's more intellectual leaning to tell you of one or two of the last bons mots brought out in France. A study of singular ability appears in the *Revue des deux Mondes* from the pen of the celebrated M. Renan, author of the *Vie de Jesus*. It is entitled *Monarchie Constitutionelle*. Renan desires a liberal Monarchical Government, and if the Emperor grants it, he rallies to the Napoleonic dynasty arguing, with the irreconcilables of the Victor-Hugo stamp that all Empires are founded on force and treachery, and that the present Emperor's historical portrait should not be drawn for fifty years by some Saint-Beuve of the future. Allow me to mention, in passing, that this same Saint-Beuve said of the late great infidel critic, who in face was the image of a priest, came from poor Leon Gozlan. "Saint Beuve," said he one day, "always gives me the idea of an abbé who has sold his soul to the devil, but has not been paid the price." Returning to that other clever infidel, Renan, his article on Constitutional Government should be read. His views are full of good sense, and some of his ideas original and striking. He compares Paris to a great dunghill, from which, however, are forced up occasionally some exquisite flowers. There is no accounting for impressions. A little boy of whom I heard yesterday believed a dog was happy in having a kettle tied to his tail. I am sorry I used this illustration, for I must tell you the story. A howling cur was seen rushing out of a house with a kettle apparently tied to its tail. A child stood at the door in an ecstacy of laughter. "How," said his indignant mother rushing towards him, "how could you inflict such suffering on this poor animal?" "Quite the contrary, mamma! I have given the dog great pleasure, which is evident, for no sooner had I fastened the kettle to his tail than he ran away as fast as he could for fear I should take it off again." But I was going to say, *àpropos* to taste, that I have always a strong leaning to the writings of military men. There is mostly a freshness and a frankness about them that we do not find in other works. Two or three French officers of high rank are about to give us *Memoirs*. This week General Daumas has brought out a very charming book, which I can warmly commend to Eastern readers in especial. It is founded on his long experience of Algeria and is entitled *La Vie Arabe et la Société Arabe*. Many persons, as well as French, have been in possession of this fine African Colony, they seem to know little or nothing of native habits, thoughts, or manners—almost as little indeed as the English know of India. It is evident from the General's book that the French, if fine soldiers, are bad colonists. They never will learn from the Arab models. The author quotes the remark of a Native Chief to the late Marshal Bugeaud:—"Take a Frenchman and an Arab and boil them together in a great pot for twenty-four hours. At the end of that time you can still distinguish the Christian from the Musulman. They never be intermingled." Another Chief said to the Marshal on the same subject,—"Do you know that a hare bears his tail *en trompette?*" "I do." "Well, if with a wish to straighten that tail you enclose it for a year in a solid case and then let it out, probably you will be rather astonished to see it resume its original bend. The Arab is the hare's tail. You can never make straight what nature forms in a bent shape." The General tells a number of pretty anecdotes, but I have no room for further quotations to-day His book reminds me of a charming English work, also by a gallant native soldier, which I understand is about to be re-published in a second edition. I refer to Sir Thomas Seaton's *Cadet to Colonel*. There is a pure Anglo-Saxon idiom and honest simplicity in this distinguished Indian officer's work, which give it a superiority over more pretentious books. I never knew a boy especially one who was not charmed with it, or who could lay it down till he had devoured it to the end.—*Correspondent of Pioneer.*

It may interest the disciples of Gall and Spurzheim to learn that Tropmann, the "assassin à la mode" in Paris, has been subjected to the scrutiny of M. Berger, a French professor of phrenology. The results of his investigations are, at least, startling; and to the uninitiated might appear contradictory. The most highly developed organ of Tropmann's head is the love of children. With the memory of his recent exploits fresh in one's mind, this announcement is calculated to take one by surprise, but the learned professor explains that an abnormal development of the bumps of combativeness, secretiveness, and acquisitiveness enable an otherwise benevolent person to overcome his philanthropic tendencies. The well-known M. Desbarolles has also been admitted to examine the hands of the Pantin murderer, but his report is less favourable. In the lines of the palm he reads the sign of many evil passions, and traces a general resemblance between his fingers and those of the notorious Dumollard, who was executed a few years ago for having murdered sixteen girls in seven years.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

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